Daily Report

Latin America

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Further on Presidents' Summit Meeting

Duarte Confirms Postponement

PA1001222989 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 10 Jan 89 pp 3, 35

[Text] President Duarte yesterday said the Central American summit has been definitely postponed until February.

Duarte's statement clarified doubts raised yesterday morning by Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta when he suggested a possible postponement of the summit and attributed it to Costa Rican President Oscar Arias.

According to the Foreign Ministry source, Arias proposed that the presidential meeting be held after the inauguration of U.S. President-elect George Bush.

Acevedo reportedly said the meeting, which was scheduled for 15 and 16 January, could take place on 29 and 30 January or after 20 February, and noted that Honduras and El Salvador might find it difficult to agree on a date because they will be involved in border discussions at the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

El Salvador will present a reply to Honduras' suit at The Hague during the first few days of February.

The Foreign Ministry source said a meeting of deputy foreign ministers will take place on Tuesday, 10 January to prepare for a foreign ministers' meeting that has been tentatively scheduled for 18 and 19 January. This meeting was originally scheduled for 13 and 14 January.

During yesterday's news conference, the Foreign Ministry official said El Salvador will insist on an agenda containing efficient and effective mechanisms to guarantee compliance with Esquipulas commitments.

The official added that the agenda must contain at least three points he considers to be the most important:

1) Creation of a commission to supervise and follow up on democracy and the commitments contained in the Esquipulas peace accords.

2) The Honduran proposal to establish a peace verification force.

3) The Salvadoran proposal to revitalize the Central American Common Market.

He added that El Salvador will also ask the Sandinist regime to issue a statement condemning FMLN terrorists and promising to stop meddling in El Salvador's internal affairs.

'Technical Meeting' Suspended

PA1001171689 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1631 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Managua, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE)—A Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry source has told ACAN-EFE that the technical meeting of Central American deputy foreign ministers, which was to begin in Managua today, was suspended because Guatemala did not attend.

The source added: "The meeting will be convoked, as a courtesy to the Honduran, Salvadoran, and Costa Rican delegations, which had already arrived in Managua, but it will be immediately suspended." Guatemala proposed that the three meetings (the deputy foreign ministers, the foreign ministers, and the presidents) be held "simultaneously."

Cuba

Departure of Cuban Troops From Angola Begins

Honored at Funda Ceremony

FL1001140589 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] The first Cuban internationalist combatants begin their return home today. Tribute was paid to them yesterday in a ceremony held at the Funda military training center, approximately 30 km from Luanda. The Angolan Defense Minister, Colonel General Pedro Maria Tonha [word indistinct], said in his speech: Bonded by brotherhood in the same trench, the Angolan and Cuban people imposed a new reality on the peoples' war and thrust the South Africans into a crisis. The Angolan minister asked for a moment of silence for the Cubans who fell during the 13 years of struggle in that country.

During the same ceremony, 34 Cuban chiefs, officers, and soldiers received medals for distinguishing themselves with their heroic actions. Among those decorated was Raul Diaz Arguelles, who was posthumously promoted to the rank of brigadier general.

The thank-you speech was given by Colonel Benancio Avila Guerrero, who has carried out two internationalist missions and holds 24 decorations. Also present at the ceremony were Army Corps General Abelardo Colome Ibarra, member of the PCC Central Committee and first vice minister of the FAR; Division General Arnaldo Ochoa, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of the Cuban mission; and Lucio Lara, first secretary of the Peoples' Angolan Assembly.

Among the first Cuban internationalist combatants who will return to Cuba is a women's artillery unit.

Luanda Ceremony Described

FL1001171889 [Editorial Report] Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish at 0840 GMT on 10 January, in conjunction with Radio Nacional de Angola, carries live a "special broadcast" from the 1 May Plaza in Luanda, Angola, on the farewell ceremony, which began at 0830 GMT, for the first contingent of 450 Cuban internationalist troops to depart for Cuba. The announcer also reports that the ceremony is being carried live to Latin America via Radio Habana Cuba.

Announcer Carlos Rafael Jimenez reports from Luanda that "the Angolan people, dressed in all colors and carrying the flags of Angola and Cuba, are parading in front of the 3,000 Cuban combatants and internationalists, 450 of whom are in the first contingent that is returning to Cuba today." The marchers are also carrying posters of Cuban President Fidel Castro, Agostinho Neto, and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, says the announcer. Among those marching in the parade, adds Jimenez, are representatives of the Cuban Federation of Women, Pioneers, and Angolan workers. "The children are dressed in olive green," says the announcer, "and they are shouting: Cuba, Angola! Cuba, Angola!"

The announcer reports that "the ceremony is presided over by Angolan President Dos Santos and a group of Cuban generals and high-level officials who have come here to say farewell to this first group of Cubans that are returning to the fatherland today on three IL-61 Cubana de Aviacion flights." Also presiding over the ceremony, the announcer adds, is Army Corps General Abelardo Colome Ibarra, the diplomatic corps accredited in Luanda, and Brazilian General Pericles Ferreira Gomes, who will preside over the UN commission responsible for verifying the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

Cuban journalist Alberto Martinez reports that close to 1 million residents of Luanda are participating in the parade "to express their solidarity, support, recognition, and appreciation to the Cuban troops, comprised of the youths of the Cuban revolutionary people, who came to this country to guarantee their territorial integrity and peace."

Jimenez points out that the military parade is led by the combatants who fought in Cuito Cuanavale. "After the ceremony," adds Jimenez, "our combatants will march in formation toward the 4 February International Airport" to depart for Cuba.

Jimenez says that the withdrawal of the 3,000 Cuban troops prior to 1 April "is a gesture on the part of the Cuban Government, the PCC, and the Cuban people to show that they will responsibly fulfill the New York agreements and comply with the spirit of UN Resolution 435."

Army General's Comments Noted

FL1001131589 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] The return journey we take today is the beautiful result of many years of combat [words indistinct], said Army Corps General Abelardo Colome Ibarra at the farewell ceremony given by the Angolan people at 1 May Square in Luanda for the Cuban internationalist combatants.

With great enthusiasm and expressions of gratitude, the Angolan people participated in the parade and ceremony which marked the beginning of the official return of the first 450 combatants to their fatherland.

Colome Ibarra said in his speech that with the beginning of the troops return to Cuba, our government and that of Angola's give [word indistinct] proof of their willingness to honor the bilateral agreement which stipulates the conclusion of our forces' internationalist mission. At the end of his speech, he added: Warmth and admiration awaits you in the fatherland for a duty carried out in an exemplary manner, along with the continuation of the struggle for development to which you must now dedicate your efforts.

Dos Santos Bids Farewell

FL1001022789 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2044 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos saw off today the first military internationalist contingent with a message of deep appreciation for the people of Cuba. He assured them that they can always count on the recognition and indestructable support of their Angolan brothers.

In a speech delivered at the 1 May Square, where thousands of people gathered to bid farewell to the Cuban military internationalists, the head of state recounted the aid given by Cuba for the defense of Angola's sovereignty. With emotion at this time of farewell, we pay homage to the internationalist comrades present here, said Dos Santos. He asserted that the names of those fallen will always remain in the hearts and minds of the Angolan people, together with the heroes of their national liberation struggle.

The Angolan president said the Cuban-Angolan friendship and solidarity is unforgettable and indestructible. He asserted that this friendship and solidarity were cemented with blood and sacrifice in the battles of Chifangongo, Ebo, Cabinda, Cangamba, Cuito Cuanavale, Chipa, and Calueque, among others. Dos Santos said the star of internationalism glittered in all its intensity in Cuito Cuanavale.

He announced that the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Party of Labor decided to erect a monument to remember that battle. The Angolan president said another monument will also be erected to honor the memory of the internationalists fallen in defense of the Angolan fatherland. The chief of state expressed his appreciation for those who gave everything to guarantee the security of his people.

First Group Arrives in Havana

FL1101035189 [Editorial Report] Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish and Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish at 0318 GMT on 11 January begin carrying live the arrival of the first group of Cuban internationalists from Angola from the Jose Marti International Airport in Havana.

The camera shows the group of 157 Cuban officers and soldiers stepping down from the Cubana Airlines Il-72M plane. The internationalists are headed by Colonel Venancio Avila Aguero. Army General Raul Castro and other PCC and Cuban Government leaders greet them as they step down from the aircraft.

The announcer says members of the first women's anti-aircraft regiment of the FAR are among the Cuban internationalists. Some of the soldiers are seen carrying Cuban flags and pictures of Cuban President Fidel Castro and Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos. The announcer says that students from various schools and the general public have gathered at the airport to greet the Cuban soldiers and shout vivas.

Coverage ends at 0326 GMT saying that "the first 157 combatants of our glorious FAR are already in Cuba," adding that a reception will now be given for the combatants.

Castro Speaks at Cuidad Libertad 8 Jan

PA0901201989 Havana Cubavision Television in Spanish 0230 GMT 9 Jan 89

[Speech by President Fidel Castro to mark the 30th anniversary of his first speech after the revolution's victory; in Ciudad Libertad, Havana—recorded. An identical recorded version of this speech was carried on Havana Television Cubana Network in Spanish at 0130 GMT on 11 January, providing fills]

[Text] Distinguished guests, Pioneers, students, young workers, compatriots:

I do not know what anniversary, what date, or what period has been the hardest one—whether it was 30 years ago, when the revolution triumphed, or now that we are marking its 30th anniversary.

These have been days of great activity, and one night I learned that you—the Pioneers—had organized a caravan of history. I was then invited to the event—ah, see that it could fly [Castro refers to a dove given to him by a Pioneer girl. The dove had been standing on Castro's shoulder for some time and he had questioned whether the dove could fly]. [applause] I said I had many activities but that I could in no way refuse to meet with you. I asked you to call a rally of Pioneers, students, and young workers and to invite a delegation of the students of brotherly countries on the Isle of Youth [applause, shouts], as well as the people.

I have really unforgettable memories of the day when we arrived in the capital. We had crossed the island from almost one extreme to the other. A sea of people had greeted our caravan everywhere. Since then 30 years have gone by.

Like today, a throng gathered here. It was perhaps larger. This was a large military camp at the time. Decisions on the country's destiny were adopted here. It filled with people that day. It was not a school, like today. The fact that the people gathered here at this military camp was highly symbolic. It meant that the history of military coups, the history of military dictatorships, had ended forever in our homeland [applause]; that repression and crime had disappeared forever from our country. The defense of the people and the country was not going to be simply the duty of the armed institutions anymore, but of the whole people.

I cannot forget the crowd that gathered here more or less at this time. I do not even remember the full details well, but I do know that the event ended late, very late. I think it was after midnight. Those who were 20 and over are now 50 and over; those who were 30 and over are now 60 and over; and those who were 40 and over are now over 70 or 80. Inevitably, a number of those people are no longer among us. However, most probably many have a keen memory of that day. Today it may be that an overwhelming majority of those gathered here—not to say almost all of them, bearing in mind the high number of young people who are present here—had probably not been born on that 1 January. I do not know if it will be easy for you to feel the emotions that those compatriots felt, because you did not experience the times of horror, humiliation, and suffering they experienced. There were many things to do in our homeland.

The problems we had then are not today's problems. A whole world had to be changed. There was a revolution to be carried out. I remember our main concern that night was the matter of unity of the revolutionary forces—to keep divisions or confrontations from arising among those who had struggled against the tyranny and to avoid conflicts and divisions among our people. According to Marti's thinking, conflicts and the divisions had made victory impossible during the 10-year war, and divisions throughout our history had prevented full victory in the struggle for our country's independence. That was one of the most important problems or issues at that moment. I remember that a stirring appeal for unity among all revolutionary fighters was made and that the appeal yielded results. It was successful. It bore fruit.

I remember one thing we said on that night of January 8: It was that we, the revolutionary leaders, would always have the necessary patience—and if one day we ran out of patience we would always search for more patience—all the patience necessary to assume the responsibilities and the enormous power that a victorious revolution gives its leaders.

I believe we have been faithful to these two ideas. We have been tireless fighters for the unity of our people during all these 30 years. We have been tireless defenders of the principle of the patient and generous exercise of power that the revolution may have given to a few men in our revolution, and later, to the party and to the state. Those two principles proclaimed that night have remained unchanged.

We also said that so far, no matter how difficult the path may have seemed, we were sure that it was much easier than the path we had ahead. We were always aware of that reality and idea. We created no illusions for ourselves. We had been saying all along that the time for revolution and independence had arrived, that the revolution would take place.

I believe the changes that have taken place in our fatherland have been extraordinary. The tasks then were not the same as the tasks today. At that time, we had a victorious revolution inside a capitalist country; inside an imperialist neo-colony. The entire social system was about to be changed. Ownership of our industries, our public services, land, mineral resources, banks, and trade—practically everything—was in the private hands of a minority of exploiters.

An important part of these resources and industries were in the hands of foreign enterprises. Our people worked for those capitalists, to further enrich that class, to further enrich those foreign enteprises. We could not imagine a life without that system.

Today it may seem very natural to you to find that wherever you go, everything belongs to all the people: a movie house; a store; an industry; an important factory, large or small; public services—bus service, railroads, sea transportation, schools, hospitals, centers for investigation; mass communications—media, television, radio, newspapers, and printing shops.

All these services belong to the people. The mines, railroad trains, sugarcane and rice plantations, and the large citrus, food, dairy, and meat production centers you see belong to all the people.

We still have small properties that belong to farmers who used to pay rent for the land. They used to pay the large estate owners a big chunk of what they produced as rent. All those farmers—small farmers—were exempted from paying any type of rent. They became proprietors of their lands. Basically, these are the only kind of properties that currently exist.

Housing did not belong to the people. The majority of dwellings used to belong to persons called tenement owners. There were some people who owned 50, 100, or 500 apartments, and some even had thousands of apartments. People had to pay 20, 25, or 30 percent of their family's income for housing. Today every family knows the house it inhabits belongs to them; that it is their property. No one will evict them. The only cases of persons who do not own their houses are when housing has been assigned to a factory and and the houses are basic facilities of industries, but this is a rare occurrence. In that time [before the revolution] people did not even dream of something like this. A family would never own the house it inhabited even if they had paid 20, 25, 30 percent of the family's income in rent for 30, 40, 50 years.

At that time there was a common problem: unemployment and underemployment. I recall that on the night of 8 January, some people cried out that it was necessary to create jobs. The job problem was... [corrects himself] unemployment was one of the most serious problems. It was society's permanent problem. I could have told them: We also need to build hospitals, polyclinics, and schools. We need to give all the country's children the

opportunity to study and attend grade school, high school, and senior high school [pre-universitaria]. Only an insignificant number of children and youths could attend school. The number of children that attended grade school was larger, but it was still less than 50 percent. The high school and senior high school attendance rate was considerably lower—less than 10 percent.

Not only could [people] claim we needed factories, construction, and agricultural development, but also hospitals, universities, research centers; all of those were urgently needed by our people. Actually, our people did not have a lot of political sophistication, and we must say so: Our people did not at that time have the political sophistication they attained later. Our people were full of fighting spirit, enthusiastic, warm, and rebellious, and hated crime, unjustice, outrages, corruption, maltreatment, and all the vices that were characterictic of capitalism.

Here was a people who hated oppression above everything else. This is why they were overjoyed when the revolution triumphed. It could not yet be said, however, that this was a Socialist or Marxist-Leninist people. A large number of the people were still confused during those times. They had heard antisocialist and anticommunist propaganda—from the capitalist West, mainly the United States—for decades. Anticommunism and antisocialism, the main banners of this propaganda, were used as instruments to try to keep the capitalist regime intact and the people divided.

It is necessary to wage a great battle against those ideas and this lack of sophistication. The people wanted changes but did not have a clear idea of which changes were necessary. They opposed injustice, hunger, and unemployment. But they could not yet understand that the great majority of those problems were created by the capitalist system, in which tools of production were privately owned. By its very nature, this system exploits the people, detaches itself from the people's problems, and only cares about profits. When the people were asked if they wanted agrarian reform, they said yes. They also agreed on the need to lower rents and carry out urban reform. Similarly, the people agreed on the need to establish agrarian reform, to release peasants from the payment of rent, and to rid them of exploiting intermediaries. When asked if public services, such as telephone, energy, and transportation, should be owned by the people, they agreed. But when some citizens were asked if they would accept socialism, they said no, because they did not know the nature of either communism or socialism.

Our people's minds were saturated with this propaganda. A large number of the people rejected socialism and communism without even knowing what they were. For this reason it was necessary to execute the Moncada program in the initial stage of the revolution. We can say this program was the introduction to socialism, but it was not yet socialism. The establishment of this system was not yet being discussed in our country. How did our people become socialist? More than through indoctrination and reasoning, our people became socialists through the revolutionary laws implemented. When rent was lowered, deeply cutting into the interests of landowners, all the people backed this measure.

When agrarian reform started, all the people supported it. For the first time in our country's history, the state and government ceased to support the wealthy and stood beside the poor. When the vast majority of our people saw that the government had decidedly affected the interests of the wealthy and the bourgeoisie to support the people, all the lies and antisocialist and anticommunist campaigns crumbled like a house of cards. Thus emerged a new trend of political thought, a true political sophistication among our people. Never before had such a radical change taken place in our country. Never had there been such a radical change in the country's means of production. Never before had there been such an in-depth change in awareness.

Even when slavery was abolished last century, the result of the Mambises' heroic struggle during the 1868 war, the slaves were free in theory but in practice they continued working for the landowners and capitalists in exchange for a meager salary. Property was not turned over to the slaves or the people.

Even at the beginning of the century, when Cuba's independence was formally proclaimed and there was an alleged Cuban Government, with a constitution that contained an amendment called the Platt Amendment that gave the United States the right to intervene in our country, there were no changes. Ownership of land and industry continued in the hands of those who already had them, the landowners and capitalists. Absolutely nothing changed.

For the first time in our country's history, property has been taken from the exploiters and turned over to the people. It is the first time a true social revolution has taken place. It is the first time our people's political philosophy and awareness have undergone an in-depth change. This, of course, unleashed the Yankee imperialists' hatred and antagonism. They could not conceive of such a thing. They could not conceive of a socialist revolution in our country. They considered our country their property and our people their meek flock. With the in-depth changes in our country's social situation, property ownership, and awareness began the ferocious imperialist blockade against our country, which has lasted as long as the revolution has lasted.

There are many tasks that the present generation will not have to confront. This generation's ideological battle will be of a different nature; it will not have to create socialist awareness but to defend it.

The present generation does not have to wage a battle to change the property system; instead, it must defend the system of socialist property, develop and perfect that system, develop and perfect that awareness.

The present generation does not have to wage a battle against illiteracy, because, for a long time, since 1961, illiteracy has been virtually eradicated. This does not mean illiteracy was eradicated in a single day, but it began to be tackled at its roots. The new generation does not have to build schools in the mountains, the fields, and in the cities of our country. The new generation does not have to face the problem of finding teachers for the schools. The new generation does not have to face these tasks, because these tasks were accomplished by the revolution a long time ago. The new generation, or the present generation, does not have to face the task of taking health services to all the people, of building hospitals in rural areas. The new generation does not have to face an undetermined number of diseases that are no longer with us today.

The new generation does not have to face a high mortality rate, does not have to face the task of building a hospital network throughout the country. In education, the new generation does not have to build thousands of schools. The new generation does not have to face the desperate need to train tens of thousands of teachers or doctors because our country has made great progress in those areas, because our country today has thousands and thousands of reserve teachers. Now, more doctors are graduated in our country every year than all the doctors that remained here after the revolution's victory.

The new generation does not have to face the phenomenon of unemployment; it does not have to face the profound changes we had to make in rural areas in order to produce a radical transformation; it does not have to create new agrarian laws or farms, organize cooperatives, exempt peasants from paying rent; the new generation does not have to carry out urban reform, it does not have to nationalize mines, as they are all nationalized; there is no need to organize public services or transportation as that, too, has already been done. There is no need to nationalize factories, education, or health services, as all of that has been accomplished.

We could even say that the new generation does not have to face the task of building tens of thousands of kilometers of roads and highways, a large number of the dams that already exist, and irrigation and canal systems. The new generation will not have to tackle the task of developing the infrastructure for ports, railroads, and other facilities to meet the country's needs. Many of the things accomplished during these 30 years make the task of this generation very different, but no less important, at the beginning of the revolution's fourth decade.

The construction of socialism in our country has made great progress. The new generation will not have to create, organize, and develop a party, youth organizations, or the powerful organizations of the masses within the revolution. These institutions already exist. The current generation does not have to organize a powerful army and the defense mechanisms with the participation of all the people to defend the country. These have already been created. The new generation does not have to organize the Interior Ministry and the instruments to struggle against the enemy's activities and keep order in the homeland. These institutions have alredy been created. Many things have been created.

I repeat, however, that the current generation's responsibilities and tasks are very important. In the first place, this generation must move the revolution forward. This is not a task of 1 day or 1 year, or of 10 or 30 years. The revolution is a task that exists for an indefinite time. The revolution has brought new ideas, a new ideology. The task of the new generation is to develop this idea and ideology and resolutely defend them. [applause].

The current generation is tasked with consolidating, perfecting, and defending the revolution, strengthening the mechanisms to defend the homeland and the country's integrity and independence. The new generation has to develop, defend, and perfect socialism.

The new generation must defend socialism. Some people may have thought the stage of the defense of socialism was over. Our criteria and deepest convictions, however, tell us that that phase is necessary now more than ever.

During the last 30 years, the revolution defended itself from the imperialist threat, the imperialist aggression, the imperialist plans against Cuba, and from imperialist subversion and crime. The revolution defended itself from counterrevolutionary groups, mercenary invasions, plans, economic sabotage, murders of revolutionary cadres, reiterated threats of direct aggression, and from a 30-year economic blockade. Imperialism, however, has not disappeared. Imperialism is there. Neither the capitalist ideology nor capitalism have disappeared. Capitalism and its ideology are still there. The imperialist threats have not disappeared; they are there. To think that all of that difficult period for the revolution and the homeland is over would be an illusion, an illusion that the current generation cannot fall for. New generations must not fall for that illusion.

Imperialism has not given up the idea of eradicating socialism in Cuba. The imperialists have not given up their plans to eliminate revolutionary ideology in Cuba. Imperialists have not given up the idea of destroying our revolution. Imperialists have perhaps changed their tactics and weapons, but the Yankee imperialists are too arrogant, prepotent, and haughty to give up the idea of defeating the Cuban Revolution and the idea of wiping out socialism in Cuba. We can even say something else: World imperialism and capitalism are too arrogant, prepotent, and haughty to give up the idea of eliminating socialism in the world.

Imperialism has never renounced the idea of annihilating socialism or of annihilating the socialist process from the face of the earth. It has tried it more than once through the use of force, as it did during the first years of the Soviet revolution when it tried to meddle in the USSR; during the fascist aggression against the Soviet Union during World War II; during many years of encirclement of the USSR and the socialist camps by military bases with atomic weapons; and through its threats to annihilate socialism in a war. Since historical circumstances have prevented the imperialists from annihilating socialism by means of war, imperialism has not renounced the idea of annihilating socialism through subversion, attrition, and, if possible, the internal destruction of the socialism system. As the danger of a world war may be fading, the efforts by capitalism and imperialism to defeat socialism on the ideological front will increase. Although the current generation does not have to plant the seeds of the ideological front—that is, the seeds of socialism and Marxism-Leninism in our people's political and revolutionary thinking—I think the current generation is facing the imperative task of waging a hard struggle, a subtle struggle, and a complex struggle to defend socialist ideologies on the ideological front.

Imperialists do not deny saying that when this revolutionary generation—the generation of those who waged the war and implemented the revolution throughout these 30 years—has passed from the scene, their task will be much easier. Imperialists do not hide their hope that it will be much easier to deal with the new generation. Imperialists say, think, and estimate that since the new generation has not lived in a capitalist system, and did not suffer from or know about the past's bitter experiences, the new generation will have fewer points of reference between the past and present. They think the new generation will not be as committed to the revolution, and will be easier to mislead and confuse. They think waging the ideological war will be easier with the new generation. They think defeating the revolution will be much easier with the new generation.

The capitalist and imperialist theoreticians cannot deny this. The imperialist political investigation centers cannot deny this; in fact, they assert it. Those are their hopes. Moreover, the campaign against our country has increased lately. It seems the capitalists and imperialists sometimes lose sleep over the Cuban Revolution's firmness, the Cuban Revolution's uncompromising, courageous, and resolute attitude. Thus, a sizeable part of their news media and propaganda tries to attack and discredit the Cuban Revolution and confuse our people.

As we said recently, in the world at present there is a sort of imperialist euphoria, a sort of capitalist euphoria, stemming from the reforms and self-criticisms that are taking place in various socialist countries. This is no secret to us, because we know it well. That euphoria tries to present capitalist mechanisms as the only mechanisms to resolve problems, to achieve productivity, to develop.

We are currently observing that situation, that thought, those illusions, those ideas of the imperialists. They are annoyed about Cuba's firm attitude; about the full confidence that our country, our party, and our revolution have in socialism; about our deep Marxist-Leninist convictions; about our revolutionary intransigence—and that intransigence is nothing new. That intransigence is as old as our country's history; it is so old... [changes thought] In 1978, we commemorated the 100th anniversary of the heroic protest of Baragua, yet the intransigence and firmness of our people's revolutionary beliefs is much older. Therefore, the imperialists should not be surprised about our party's and our people's attitude. [applause]

If this is so, the present generation will begin the huge task entrusted to them, which is in a sense a task even greater than the task we had, because at the time of the revolution, socialism was progressing successfully, united, with no difficulties, and with increasing prestige. What does the present generation or this generation have to continue the revolution's work. What do they have nowadays that we did not have?

During the first years we did not even have teachers. Today there are over 270,000 professors and teachers. During the first years, the people's education was at the second-grade level. Today our people's education is at the high-school level. During the first years, there were practically no planners, specialized engineers, or economists. Today we have hundreds of thousands of university graduates. During the first years, there were 3,000 doctors; today we have over 30,000. During the first years of the revolution, we never had the human resources this generation has. This generation has thousands and thousands of scientific cadres. Our country has outstanding positions in many aspects that determine the future.

In advanced technology, which will determine Cuba's future development, we have institutions such as the genetic engineering and biotechnology center and the National Center for Scientific Research. A robotics center and a center for transplant and nerve regeneration were recently created. In the past few years, thousands and thousands of scientific and technical cadres have been working at the computer research center in the electronics industry as well as in the computer industry and in the nuclear industry—exclusively for peaceful purposes, of course.

We could say that our country has been creating the conditions for proper scientific and technical development in all areas. I am not speaking here of medicine. I believe that in these past years, our country has established the proper conditions to become a true medical power. [applause]

In the area of education, the conditions have been established for our country to become a true power. The latest achievements in this area are the pre-university

natural science schools, where tens of thousands of youths [applause] are educated under extraordinarily favorable conditions.

Computer science studies have been incorporated, not only in the area of higher education, but also in these [pre-university] schools, in teacher training schools. And in a very short time they will be incorporated into all middle-level schools in the country. [applause]

The Communist Youths proposed the idea of the youth clubs [jovenclub] to teach computer science to youths who, in their university or high school classes, did not receive training in this area.

In the area of science, we have over 100 institutions. In other areas, such as the area of innovations, or streamlining [racionalizaciones], and the youth technical brigades, we have advanced considerably. All of this creates the conditions to allow the present generation to consolidate, improve, and develop socialism. [applause]

We are facing a great historic challenge. Who will win? Who will prevail? The selfish, chaotic, inhumane capitalist regime, or will rational socialism [prolonged, rhythmic applause] prevail as the most rational, compassionate [solidario], and humane system?

Not only are the Cuban youths and the Cuban people faced with this challenge today, but so are the youths and peoples of socialist countries. Of course, this requires a special effort from us, particularly from the new generation. We must clearly see what is ahead for us.

The battle in which we are now engaged is perfecting socialism in our country. This battle is perhaps our greatest challenge: perfecting socialism without resorting to the mechanisms and style of capitalism, [applause] without being capitalistic. Toward that end, we are now in a process of rectification.

A few days ago, I said some results of that process are already evident. We have seen some results. For example, to mention one of them, we have the contingents. There are groups of youths who work in contingents in the capital city. [applause] We have witnessed great prowess these days. We have seen what the Blas Roca Contingent did; we have seen what the 6th Congress Contingent did; we have seen what the contingents that worked at EXPOCUBA did; we have seen what the minibrigades have done; we have seen the work carried out by the contingents in the various provinces. We have seen their work, and the principles that are being followed by those labor forces have nothing to do with capitalist methods or with capitalist organizational methods. [applause]

I am sure there are no contingents like these anywhere. These contingents proved what man can do and what man is able to do when there is faith and trust in men and when we do not see men as animals [applause], as animals [repeats himself] that do things only if you place a carrot in front of him.

Minibrigades, contingents, and thousands of mass work groups in our country are currently making great efforts. We can say that our thousands of mass work groups are not working and doing what they are doing because we are placing a carrot in front of them. [applause]

What carrot did we place in front of the members of the PCC 6th Congress Contingent, who in only 1 year completed the construction of a great hospital in our capital? We must add that it is of excellent quality. [applause]

What carrot made the members of the minibrigades and contingents complete in only 1 year--the main part of the work was completed in 1 year—that wonderful work called EXPOCUBA? [applause]

What carrot was given to the Cuban citizens who contributed 400,000 hours of volunteer work to construct the Miguel Henriquez Hospital? [applause]

What carrot was given to the thousands of college students and students of the technological institute who [sustained applause] put in millions, who put in millions [repeats himself] of hours of volunteer work for the country's various social projects?

What carrot did we give to the mid-level students who participated in the harvest of citrus fruit in Jaguey? [applause] They harvested over 400,000 tons of citrus fruit. [applause]

What carrot did we give to the Isle of Youth students who harvested approximately 200,000 tons of citrus fruits? [applause] [crowd shouts indistinct slogans]

What carrot made the hundreds of thousands of Cuban university students, who are currently participating [applause]—there are many university students here, I see; there are a lot of university students here. How many are here? [crowd shouts indistinctly]

There are many university students here [prolonged, rhythmic applause] who do any task that is asked of them. What carrot could motivate the hundreds of thousands of students who are participating now in the agricultural schools? [applause; crowd chants "Fidel" repeatedly, followed by indistinct slogans]

What carrot motivates the hundreds of thousands of students who are working 3 hours a day in the rural schools? [applause; crowd chants indistinct slogans]

In other areas we could ask: What carrot motivated the fighters of the rebel army who, for 2 years, faced up to and defeated the tyrant's Army? [sustained applause]

What carrot, what carrot [repeats himself] motivated the thousands upon thousands, tens of thousands, of teachers, doctors, and workers who have performed internationalist service? [applause]

What carrot motivated the 50,000 Cuban fighters in Angola, who made victory possible? [applause, crowd chants indistinct slogans]

I will ask one last question, as the list would be endless: What... [crowd chants indistinct slogans] I was trying to ask my last question—as the list could go on forever—is what carrot motivated the 300,000 compatriots who carried out their honorable internationalist mission in Angola for 13 years? [applause, slogans]

Therefore, therefore do we have, do we have, do we have [repeats himself] or do we not have reasons to believe in men, in their consciences, and in their spirit of solidarity? Do we or do we not have reasons to believe man is capable of doing whatever he commits himself to? Do we or do we not have reason to believe men would rather live in a more humane, more generous, more solidaristic, and fairer society than in the society of the capitalist world, where the law of the jungle prevails?

Tell me if a society that grew up among the selfish ideas of socialism... [corrects himself] capitalism could carry out any one of the projects we have mentioned here.

That is why our faith in the future of the revolution is so firm. That is why I told you—based on certain experiences and factors—that your task is to improve and develop the revolution and its system.

I read many capitalist press agency reports and commentaries that portray us as dreamers and idealists. I do not deny that we were idealists at one time. All men have been idealists.

I would say we have been idealists in the better sense of the word. At one point, we admitted committing ideological mistakes. Later, we made profiteering [mercanchiflismo] mistakes. That is what we did while we were correcting something. They [not further identified] seek to sow confusion, saying we wandered away from the socialist formula. I am categorically stating here that we do not want to wander away from the socialist formula, which was defined a long time ago. Each person is to contribute according to his means and to receive according to his work. That means the redistribution of goods is to be carried out based on the quantity and quality of work a citizen contributes to society. In this phase of the revolution, we cannot wander from this formula.

The problem is how to interpret that formula. We cannot always apply the principle of giving to each according to his means and the amount of work he does. When we are going to send a worker's son to a school, we do not look at how much his father works and contributes, because we want to give children the best education. If a child gets sick, we do not ask about his father or mother's quality and quantity of work. We simply see a child that society and socialism has the sacred duty to cure, no matter what the cost. If pediatric heart surgery must be done—and it may cost thousands and thousands of pesos—no one hesitates to do it. If a kidney transplant must be done, no one hesitates to do it. If a heart transplant has to be done, no one hesitates to do it.

No one asks that citizen: How much do you work? How much do you contribute or fail to contribute? A heart transplant may cost 100,000 [currency not specified]. A heart transplant costs in the United States. [sentence as heard] Dozens of heart transplants have been done here. I would like to ask if it cost any citizen a single centavo, or if any citizen was asked how much he contributes to society. Work rewards must logically be based on quality and quantity. This is a logical socialist formula. However, there are many things in society—many services, tasks, and satisfaction—that are not part of that formula. In building socialism, and without wandering from the formula whereby each receives according to his means and work, there are many socialist formulas and principles that are applied with different criteria. We cannot stop applying them with different criteria.

There are many formulas in socialism. They can resemble the formulas of communism. How much does one charge a child who is in a school on a scholarship, or in the university, or the technical school, or in a natural sciences school? How much is he charged, and who is asked [for payment]? Who is asked? After all, this child's contribution is made by his parents. Does one analyze the talent or merit of the child, the youth, or the adolescent? Does one analyze his grades, his records, his test scores? He is given an opportunity. He cannot always be measured by the simplistic formula that everyone should receive according to one's quantity of work.

But we will not depart from the socialist formula if we understand the importance of the socialist formula of reward; if we understand that it is one of the principles from which we cannot wander. We understand the importance of reward, even of material incentives. We understand it, but this in no way means we will worship that material incentive, or even that we believe it is the fundamental factor. If we begin to believe it is the fundamental factor, this could have negative consequences. The socialist formula of reward is part of the historic process of our revolution, but I believe there are factors—I have said this, and I repeat it, and I will not tire of repeating it—that are more important than material incentives. [applause]

The entire capitalist society revolves around material incentives and it pays not the slightest attention to moral factors. The construction of socialism cannot follow the capitalist formula of giving the most weight to material incentives. I have a great number of examples here of feats that have nothing to do with material incentives. It is not possible to speak of the construction of socialism without giving the most attention to the moral factor.

On 4 January, I was amazed when we gave out diplomas to the EXPOCUBA workers who had done extraordinary things. I remember one worker who worked and worked and was always there, day and night. That comrade put in 3,500 hours of volunteer work.

I later calculated this and it is the equivalent, it is the equivalent [repeats himself] of approximately 2 years of volunteer work—after working 8 hours a day! [applause] What moves that man to do this? Not money, because there is no money to pay for this. I see what the men who comprise the Blas Roca Contingent and the other contingents are doing, and I assure you no one else would do the same thing for money.

These people could earn their living by working half as much, yet we must struggle with them—not to make them work but to stop them from working too much, because the strength of honor is incalculable and infinite. If they make a commitment and it rains, thus preventing them from making any progress, then they want to stay up until 0200 or 0300. We said: No, do not work beyond 2200. We must constantly restrain them. Thus, I know those men will not do it for money. They are paid by using the socialist formula. They are even forbidden from doing volunteer work on weekdays so they do not come up with the idea of working more hours. We have told them: There will be no volunteer work except on Sundays. We authorize volunteer work only on Sundays.

We see their reaction. They respond to other things, to other attitudes. The way you care for people is very important. Men are capable of doing anything for a friendly gesture, yet they would not do the same thing for money. Men are capable of giving their lives for a friendly gesture, because men die in combat for a friendly gesture from their fatherland! Men die in combat defending their fatherland and ideas! [applause]

Men have taken all kinds of risks. Hundreds of thousands of fellow citizens have risked their lives carrying out internationalist missions. How much money would have paid for this? No one would offer his life for money because, among other things, money is worthless when you are dead. No one would offer his life for 1 million pesos or 10 million pesos, yet men are capable of dying en masse for the sake of their ideas.

When we mobilized millions of people in this country, we prepared and armed them; and we know millions are prepared to die in case of an invasion. How could we pay them for this? How could we pay each of the men and women in our Armed Forces, Territorial Militia troops, production brigades, and defense brigades for defending their homeland? They are defending an idea, they are defending the fatherland! [applause]

How could we pay the fighters who go out on internationalist missions, the hundreds of thousands who carried out internationalist missions and risked their lives for an idea, a principle, for the sake of solidarity, internationalism, and honor? Men—when I say men I mean men and women, but I do not want to repeat myself. Human beings do for the sake of their morals and honor what they would not do for all the money in the world!

I think it would be an insult to the people's revolutionary ideals and ideas to believe that men will only be moved by material things. I want this clearly understood so no one misinterprets this idea. We stand firm, quite firm; that is why we see all those examples. I was merely mentioning a few which are unique given the people's attitude and are the result of our education. There can be no socialism, and a communist society cannot be developed, if there is no education and if certain ideas do not become ethical principles for every citizen and every human being.

Therefore, the new generation must work hard, build things, and perfect the system. We have attained considerable progress but (?much more progress must be achieved). Perhaps this generation will not be able to build communism in our country or live in a communist society, but it will certainly attain considerable progress. Other generations will do their part, because the march cannot be stopped, and one generation will follow another like a caravan to victory.

I said earlier that we have attained considerable progress in certain things, so the country does not have to make those things a priority. I said that... [changes thought] Referring to health, it will no longer have to be a priority—even though we must continue to perfect what we are doing—because we have more than 25,000 medical students. The doctors that we will need in 1995 are already in medical college, and others are already in premedical college. Those programs must continue, no doubt about it, and we will have between 65,000 and 70,000 doctors by the year 2000. We all know what they will do.

We must continue with the family doctor programs, and we must build hospitals in certain places. We must build clinics, health institutions, and some hospitals, but that will not be a priority matter in future years. We will not have to emphasize the need for investments in the education sector, but we must continue to perfect our education programs and system, making them richer and more scientific. Everything we do with the Exact Sciences School, the computers, and college and university education represents an improvement in quality.

We will have to continue to build schools, not because there are no schools, but to build newer and better schools—schools with all the material conditions so there are not too many students in a classroom, and so the classroom has proper ventilation and enough light. We will continue to build more schools, but this is a task in which we have achieved considerable progress.

We will continue to build more dams, but we have already built a sizeable part of the largest one. It is simply a matter of working according to plan until the last dam and the last canal is completed in the country. It is simply a matter of working according to plan and of not letting things slow down, failing to meet a deadline, or forgetting things. We certainly have achieved considerable progress.

We must continue to build roads and highways even though most of them have been built. We must continue to build the national highway to Santiago de Cuba, finish the highway to Pinar del Rio, and build a two-lane highway to that area, but those are development tasks that must be carried out after we build a second set of tracks for our main railroad. I believe it was a mistake not to build a second set of tracks when the railroad was rebuilt.

We have achieved considerable progress in many of these things, but we must achieve progress in the scientific research centers—in an increasingly selective way. We must clearly ascertain the usefulness of each center, including all the new scientific research centers under construction. Also, the principle of dedication, the principle of dedication [repeats himself] must be encouraged among the scientists who work in those new centers, because they seem to have forgotten about this.

We must continue to industrialize the country. Yes, that is a basic task for the next 30 years and the next 60 years. We must make investments that yield the best products and results, solve more problems, and meet our priority needs. The current generation must continue to work intensively and search for the best, investing the necessary resources for the country's industrialization.

We will have to continue developing all kinds of services. The revolution must work more on and perfect this sector. I am not talking about health or education services; I am talking about other kinds of services in which we must attain solutions. The construction of houses is a very important task. We will have to emphasize the importance of this for our social development in the near future. In other words, there are many tasks to fulfill, complement, and develop.

We will also have new tasks. I said... [changes thought] We will have to develop the steelworks and mechanical industry. We have to master automation and attain progress with robots, the programmed operations, and the automatic lathes. This not only increases productivity but also improves the quality of our products. Future generations must develop this sector to the maximum, and they have the potential to do this.

They also have to develop genetic engineering and biotechnology, and they have the adequate conditions for this. It is also necessary to give a tremendous impulse in the years to come to electronic and computer sciences. It is also necessary to give a great impulse to biological sciences. It is also necessary to continue implementing daily scientific knowledge and techniques in the agricultural field; it is necessary to give an impulse to this sector. It is necessary to develop plans that will guarantee a steady food supply, taking into account our climate and our natural resources. Significant progress has been attained recently in the use of sugarcane for animal food. A specific hectare planted with sugarcane could yield an additional 50 percent with irrigation, division of land, and drainage of plots (drenajes parcelarios); it could yield twice the usual amount, and a good part of this yield could be used to produce meat and milk, proteins that have a nutritional value. It is necessary to continue with the rice plans to increase production 50 percent, and to increase production of tubers, vegetables, citrus products, and fruits to feed the people. It is a huge task; however, there are thousands and thousands of technicians and university graduates already in the fields.

For the current generation, much work lies ahead in the social and economic fields. More than anything else, the current generation has to perfect socialism, develop and take it as far ahead as possible using methods fit for the masses, using socialist and revolutionary methods. We must not allow ourselves to be deceived by the illusion that by using capitalist methods—which completely depart from the methods we were explaining here, vulgar capitalist methods—or by glorifying the boosting of wages to try and comply with socialism, because we will then fail. This is nothing new; I am not just saying this now. Che said this years ago, and he was a clear-minded, brilliant, and intelligent revolutionary. [applause]

Many of the Che's warnings about this were seen later. Perfecting socialism is a strategic task of the current revolution... [corrects himself] generation. Defending socialism becomes an ideological struggle. We need to defend ourselves from this ideological offensive, not only with enthusiam, conviction, and morale, but also with the mind, studies, and in-depth analysis of the problems. We must use the mind. Both things are needed. Having the conviction is essential, feeling is essential, enthusiasm is essential, but we must go into it in-depth, we must study it. (?I believe in the role) of teaching revolutionary doctrine, Marxism-Leninism. Political teaching should be less dogmatic and more dialectical. This does not mean a more liberal, more opportunist, or more dialectic interpretation of ideas. It means not interpreting ideas liberally or opportunistically.

I believe we need to study more of our country's history. If we have great, unsurpassable historical roots, we must then learn more of Cuba's history—not only in school, but through publications. We sometimes go crazy publishing any old book, and we do not publish a good book on Cuban history. Some of these history books have already been written: biographies of historical personalities or history of centuries past—especially history on past society—on the time when our nationality emerged, on the struggle for our independence.

We have to publish more books and better publicize them. Those books take us to our cultural and historical roots. Those books are very rich. I claim there cannot be a good political education without a good knowledge of history. There cannot be a good revolutionary formation without a good knowledge of history.

The present generation must resist the imperialist attacks, but it must be prepared to do so on any ground. Regarding the country's defense, I want to repeat here what I said on 5 December: what our philosophy should be; what our concept of defense should be. Some people believe, or think, or have said, that the heroic stage is over. We cannot let ourselves be misled by these strange ideas. That is a mistaken opinion. The idea is false. The heroic stage is not over and we do not know when the heroic stage will end. There are those here saying that the heroic stage has ended, but tens of thousands of men advanced to the south of Angola, converted into a powerful fist prepared to vanquish the apartheid army unless it withdrew. [applause]

While some here were talking about the end of the heroic stage, never were so many men writing such glorious pages in our country's history. That is the reality. Those things happened in 1988. On one hand, many of our men were writing the most beautiful pages in our country's history; on the other, some people were spreading strange and mistaken ideas about the end of the heroic stage of our struggle.

We cannot lower our guard. We mut be ready to fight, because the heroic stage could last dozens of years. I would say that stage could last for as long as imperialism and the aggressive, warmongering, and threatening philosophy exist. We see that everyday. The imperialists are presently marching. Right now, Yankeee squadrons are going to the Mediterranean Sea.

We cannot make the mistake of neglecting our defense, and we hope the new generations will never make that decisive and vital mistake. When I talk about heroism, I am not only talking about the kind of heroism men demonstrate in combat. Heroism is needed in many other fields. We need heroism to work; we need a lot of heroism to work. When we spoke about those youths, we were talking about labor heroes. We need many of those heroes. We need not only heroes who shed their blood. Heroes are not made only on the battlefield.

I claim that Cuba is a country filled with men and women of heroic capacities. We can be heroes in construction work, in a factory, in a scientific research center. We can be heroes while fulfilling an internationalist, civil mission as teachers or doctors. The high number of Cuban doctors working in internationalist missions shows the type of heroes our country has. They are doctors and professionals of various other fields.

Hopefully, in the future we will not have to fight and peace will prevail. Hopefully, in the future we will send not soldiers or combatants, but doctors, teachers, scientists, and professionals abroad. According to our estimates, around the year 2000 Cuba should have 10,000 doctors available to offer in international cooperation. Hopefully, by the year 2000 we will be conducting only missions of cooperation.

When I speak of heroism, I not only speak of heroism on the battlefield or in the military sense. I am speaking about civil heroism, around which we could write as extraordinary pages of history as on the battlefield. That is a very important issue. In my opinion, it is a key idea for the current generation.

We must develop new forms and conceptions of work. We must develop the spirit we found in the builders' contigents. We must develop that spirit in all areas, not only in the construction sector. I know of scientific research centers that share that spirit. In fact, that spirit of dedication was born in a scientific center. We must extend that spirit of dedication to all sectors. We must not work for the sake of working, of course, but we must not stop working because we lack equipment, hand labor, or time. We must seek a more conscientious discipline of work and study.

We must leave paternalistic tendencies behind, which is why I so like the system of discipline and organization of the contingents. The group determines the disciplinary system. Many laws, a great number of laws, have been made in the capitalist system, where the worker is exploited by the capitalists. In socialism, there have often been obstacles. There have been comments about laziness. There has been too much protection, which has been contrary to the people's interests. I believe there can be no socialist or communist conscience until work ceases to be ruled by legislative precepts or by some imposition, some form of coercion, imposed by society, and becomes something that is truly done on the basis of conscience.

Therefore, we have to analyze our own labor legislation, which has served to protect not the good worker but the lazy, the undisciplined. We have to seek 20 lawyers and new forms of discipline on the job, forms that are more conscientious.

The contingents have practically no incentives; there are practically no incentives. We never have to ask. When one of those men has to miss work, we know he was really sick and that he truly could not come.

We have to eliminate our extremely specialized [perfiles estrechos] jobs. We have to look at jobs from a broader perspective. We do not know how many specialized jobs were invented here just so the workers would not have to do their 8 hours of work. With such specialized jobs, it was not possible to find enough work for 8 hours and so they worked 5, 6, 7, or 4 hours. We must use the multitask concept. It is foolish for one person to do just this, or that, or the other. This way they gain experience.

We must not hurl ourselves hastily into any of these things, but we must work in a sustained manner in implementing these ideas. In my opinion, they are key concepts toward achieving discipline and efficiency in socialism.

There are many work centers, and many of them are beginning to be exemplary. On the other hand, we have to learn technology. We must master technology and apply it, because productivity on the job lies in this. You can motivate a man materially so he cuts more cane. I use cutting cane, because it is a good example of the type of job in which one cannot stop applying the socialist formula. However, no matter how many incentives you give a man, he can only cut 30 or 50 percent more; but a machine, a KTP-1 combine, can cut enough for 40 men. The KTP-2 can cut for as many as 60 or 70 men. There may be machines that will allow 1 man to replace 120 men. That is a very clear example of how productivity depends basically on technology.

Material incentives can increase production up to a point, and they should be used, particularly depending on the type of work involved. With an automatic programmed lathe, one can do in 2 hours, with much better quality, what the best lathe operator needs 50 hours to do. With computers, one can do the calculations for a small engineering project in 1 and ½ hours, while 40 or 60 hours would be needed otherwise. The secret of productivity on the job is in technology and discipline. The productivity of the Blas Roca Contingent and of the other contingents do not depend on the speed with which the man operates, but on the constancy. He is forbidden to go faster than a certain number of kilometers, because the equipment is conserved better and his life and the lives of others are protected. The productivity of the Blas Roca Contingent depends on the rhythm, back and forth, in a sustained manner. The loader is always there. The bulldozer is always there. Each one is always in his place. No time is wasted. That is the secret of productivity, not the rushing back and forth of trucks at any speed. They are forbidden to go faster than a certain speed.

The secret of productivity is in discipline, technology, rational and efficient organization, and rational and efficient use of machinery and human resources.

Therefore, we must have discipline; we must develop scientific methods of organization and direction. We must gain control of technology. We can advance more than the capitalists on that path when we perfect our methods of organization and when we are capable of directing men. That is where the secret lies, to have revolutionary methods. I think these are tasks of the current generations, and they are serious tasks. It is a historic task. You will finish in 30 years. If we are to measure each 30 years, rendering accounts of what is done in the next 30 years...[changes thought] You had not even been born then. You will have to meet in the future with new generations who have not yet been born. Those who were born on 1 January—I believe there are at least dozens of comrades here who were born on 1 January 1959—they are now 30 years old. [applause] Many of you in 30 years, even the little pioneers, will be 40, 41, 42 years old; and the youths will be 40 and some, 50; and there will be new generations, such as you, to whom you must render accounts of what you do. We hope you will bequeath them a strong revolution, victorious, stronger and more victorious than our revolution is today. [applause] I certainly believe you have a great responsibility, not only in this country. The task of this generation will not be limited solely to the internal affairs of Cuba.

We live in a hemisphere and continent of enormous importance. We are part of the Latin American and Caribbean countries. Those countries combined have a population of more than 400 million inhabitants, which is almost twice the U.S. population. The task of the current Cuban and Latin American generation is immense, gigantic. I see it everywhere. I see young people, brilliant people, who hail from all these countries. During these days, we have seen hundreds of them. One has to see with how much respect and warmth they have expressed themselves in support of Cuba, making statements of all sorts supporting the revolution, explaining how much they trust, what hopes they have in the revolution. This is a decisive moment in the history of Latin America and the Caribbean. We perceive a great ebullience, a great rebellion in those countries against imperialist domination, never before witnessed. These are truly new times.

They cannot stand anymore, they can no longer stand the consequences of the debts, unequal trade, protectionism, systematic plundering, and systematic looting through these procedures. They can no longer stand the flight of capital, the brain drain. They can no longer stand the conditions to which they are subjected. There is ebullience in this hemisphere.

Our peoples have a historic task of great importance: to struggle together with the Latin American countries. They have the duty of setting an example, of expressing solidarity, of advancing the revolution, of raising and enhancing the idea of socialism, the prestige of socialism. They have the duty of cooperating, of assisting with a broad-minded spirit. I would not dare say that socialism

is the immediate order of the day of Latin America. I would dare say that the independence of Latin American peoples is the order of the day. The Latin American peoples lost their independence, left Spanish colonialism, and have fallen into a worse kind of domination, which is neocolonial domination, imperialist domination. That is a historic reality.

The United States started with a handful of English colonies on the eastern coast of the United States. It gradually extended throughout the central part of the country, exterminating indigenous populations. It reached the Pacific Coast through brutal means, through means of extermination.

Then the United States seized more than half of Mexico. More than half of Mexico's territory was seized in an expansionist war by the United States. It intervened in Central America through different means. It also tried to take over Cuba. I explained what the Narciso Lopez expedition had been, the expeditions of the pirates in Central America. It seized control of the isthmus of Canada... [corrects himself] of Panama, to establish its canal there. It has established terrible forms of domination in all of Latin America. Most of the coups staged during this century in Latin America were promoted by the United States. The most renowned was the coup d'etat against Allende which brought about the dictatorship of Pinochet, which has lasted more than 15 years. In Central America it promoted coups d'etat. In South America it promoted all sorts of coups d'etat. In Santo Domingo, it intervened when a revolution broke out there. It sent its troops to Grenada, taking advantage there of the errors and taking advantage of the suicidal acts of that revolutionary process. It has kept Cuba under permanent threat. In El Salvador it has waged a genocidal war. In Nicaragua it carries out a dirty war.

No youngster can forget this reality of our hemisphere, of our great fatherland. Our great fatherland is Latin America and the Caribbean. [applause] Only in that great fatherland, only in that great fatherland—the Latin American and Caribbean countries—can Bolivarian ideas survive. Marti's ideas gain more strength than ever. It is a political necessity, an economic necessity. Great economic communities are being formed in the world. The United States and Canada constitute a great economic community. Europe is a great economic community. The socialist countries of Europe are a great community. Japan is a great economic community. China is a great economic community, and it will be so in an ever-increasing manner. Our countries have no future without integration, without unity. This idea gains more strength than ever. This idea, these bonds of union, of solidarity, must be developed more than ever among the current generations. The Latin American peoples have here a great task, an enormous task. Bonds must be strengthened on all paths. Our struggle today is all-encompassing, because we are called upon to unite to resolve vital problems, to guarantee the independence of our countries. We no longer care about the social system each of those countries has, but we are concerned about all those things that unite us. We are united not only by all those interests we have mentioned. It is not only in the interests of peace, of respect of our peoples, but in the interests of deciding what kind of world we are going to live in, what kind of peace we will have in the future. Therefore, more than our generation, which was isolated, very isolated, by imperialism, which obliged governments to break ties with Cuba... [changes thought] That period is a thing of the past.

The ties with the other Latin American peoples, however, were never broken. Today we are developing ample ties with the governments, with many—with the peoples also, of course—with many Latin American governments.

We are entering a stage in which Latin America must join forces to survive, attain its independence, develop, and have a place in the future world. Those are very important tasks. Therefore, I believe the current generation must not only study Cuban history, but also Latin American history, geography, and economics. The new generation must study the Latin American social and economic phenomena. Fortunately, Latin Americans speak the same language and we have many common cultural roots. Even those who speak Portuguese understand us very well. We understand them very well and they understand us very well. Angola is the best example of that. Angolans speak Portuguese. Cubans did not have to learn to speak Portuguese to carry out their internationalist missions. Even those who went to work as teachers did not have to learn Portuguese.

A common language and culture is an enormous advantage. If we unite our people's culture with the culture of the other Latin American peoples, we would create an enormous, gigantic cultural force. I would dare say that force would be larger than any cultural force in any other region of the world. That is, in fact, seen at various cultural meetings; at meetings in the House of the Americas; at film, ballet, and theater festivals; and at any artistic-cultural activity. At all those meetings and occasions we can see the enormous cultural potential we have. We must make a common wealth of that cultural potential.

That is why I say we publish all kinds of books except for books on Latin American history. What do we know about Latin American and Caribbean history? What do we know about Latin American geography, economics, and natural resources?

Today we talked about political education. We cannot have politically educated people if those people lack ample information about our huge homeland, our common homeland, and our future destiny, which is Latin America and the Caribbean.

Some Cubans speak English. English is perhaps not so difficult to learn; maybe one day we will study it with more pleasure than with which we have studied it while

being attacked by the Yankee imperialists. It is not so hard to learn English to be able to communicate with the English-speaking Caribbean countries.

I believe we have basic tasks. We cannot waste time. I am not talking about school teaching. We must have a minimum of school education. I am talking about teaching the entire population. The Cuban people know how to read. They like books. We must encourage our youths. We all enjoy reading a science book or a novel, and I tell you that there is no more interesting novel or story than our own history. There is no more interesting history than the Latin American peoples' history.

I believe that should be one of the tasks of the current generation. We are not worthy of envy for having lived certain periods of history—and we have in fact lived very important times. You are worth envying because of the tasks and history that stand ahead of you and because of the starting point you have today to develop the revolution and carry out the great tasks of our hemisphere and our great tasks in the world. That does not mean our internationalist ties with the other countries will be weakened. We must continue developing our internationalist ties with our African brothers. It is a great pleasure and a great privilege for us to have here today youths representing 18 African countries and countries from other continents. [applause]

Who would have dreamed 30 years ago that we would have over 18,000 foreign students on the Isle of Youth today? We are proud of and satisfied with that. Recently I said that I have lived very unique experiences, and I would say the Cuban experience of the Isle of Youth is a unique experience in the world, a result of the Cuban people's internationalist spirit. You can see what the Isle of Youth means. [applause]

See what a great symbol this is. The Cuban youths and the Pioneers are gathered here, and among them there are 1,000 students from other countries, as representatives of over 18,000 students who are on the Isle of Youth and as representatives of over 24,000 students who are currently in our country. See what relations, what links, what ties! What a beautiful example of what today's interrelated world consists of. What a beautiful example of what the Third World is. What a beautiful example of the tasks that remain ahead of us. This generation must continue to develop that sentiment, that spirit. Much remains for the Third World to do. Much remains for the Third World to do in unison.

We must continue to develop our relations with the socialist countries, independent of the style or model for the construction of socialism that they pursue. We have our ideas, but we begin by proclaiming our most absolute respect for each socialist countries' right to try to build socialism by the paths and methods it finds most appropriate. What they do is not our concern. We respect what others do, just as we demand the most absolute respect for what we do. [applause]

It is strategically important for the present generation to continue developing those ties with the socialist countries, and for them to continue developing ties with the revolutionary, progressive forces; the working class; the progressive and honest intellectuals; the democrats in the capitalist countries; and indeed—if there is a climate of peace and coexistence—they should develop scientific, technical, and economic ties with other states, even if they are not socialist. I believe our revolution has acquired enough maturity and experience in these 30 years to allow the new generation to follow a wise, intelligent, and fertile policy of this kind.

If we are asked—as the little comrade asked us—what we wanted to say, I think about how long it would take to speak to you about so many topics. I believe you are aware that the future will not fall like manna from the skies. The goods that are needed to raise our people's standard of living must be created and developed. They must be produced in increasing quantities, and this can only be the fruit of our labor and our intelligence.

Instead of asking, we must develop a mentality of giving and contributing. Do not trust people who are always asking and demanding too much. Do not trust them, because fruit will not come from people making unrealistic demands. Fruit must come from people who give, contribute, create, and work. We can only fully meet our needs and all our aspirations through our people's work and intelligence. I deem it just and legitimate to strive to meet our needs and reach all our aspirations. I am certain we can achieve it. I am certain we will achieve it. I am sure of something I have said before. Henceforth, we can produce in 1 year the equivalent of 2 or 3 years. I am convinced that the coming years must be more fruitful than ever.

Just as I talk of discipline as an indispensible condition, I think the idea of making demands—strict demands—based on the concept of to each according to the way he fulfills his social needs must be another of the fundamental principles of the new generations. I said that we could talk a lot. However, I think I have said enough. Perhaps I have failed to tell you that our generation, the generation called the fifties generation, which began its struggle during the 100th anniversary of Jose Marti's birth, the generation of the revolution, the generation of 1 January 1959, believes in you. It is sure of you. I know you are the worthy sons of the generation that resumed the revolution to achieve our fatherland's full independence. I tell you, on behalf of our party, all the revolutionary fighters of that generation—whether they are older or younger—of our absolute faith in all of you. I tell you of our total certainty you will be able to face the major challenges of the future, [sustained applause] that you will be able to fight and overcome the ideological war, and that you will be able to fight and overcome to consolidate the revolution better and develop socialism.

Allow me to tell you of my most absolute certainty that no other generation in the history of our country has ever

had the privilege of seeing a youth like you following in its footsteps. Free fatherland or death! We will win! [Crowd shouts: "We will win!"] [sustained applause]

Embassy Denies 'Strained' USSR Relations

PA1001143789 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 3 Jan 89 p 5

[Text] In a message addressed to its compatriots, the Cuban Embassy in Mexico has stated: Cuba's historical project is the construction of "pure" socialism opposed to any policy similar to capitalism.

It states that far from being "strained" by certain ideological differences, relations between that Caribbean island and the USSR are now stronger; specifically, our friendship and mutual cooperation are stronger than ever." [no opening quotation marks as published]

The message supports a statement by its leader, Fidel Castro, that although the country is facing new challenges in its relations with the USSR, Africa, and Latin America, it will move forward. Castro made this statement in Santiago, the Cuban capital [as published], during a speech to mark the 30th anniversary of the revolution.

Within this framework, Fidel Castro said political and social reforms proposed by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev could turn out to be "difficult" to implement if the ideological opening in the USSR faces problems.

We must point out that Castro has been guiding the fate of his compatriots since the last days of 1958, when he came out of Santiago and toppled a rightist dictatorship.

Meanwhile, that embassy reported that none of the signatories of the open letter addressed to Fidel Castro, asking that a referendum be held in the island to determine whether Cuban citizens want him to continue ruling, has enough information about the achievements in the areas of social well-being, intellectual and structural development, and other improvements that have taken place in the country during the past 3 decades.

This diplomatic mission refused to voice an opinion as to whether it would be appropriate for Pope John Paul II to visit Cuba this year, which, according to reports, is a possibility.

Santiago de Cuba MTT Members Receive Medals

FL1001163189 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the revolution, 1,319 Santiago de Cuba residents received the Production and Defense Combatant Medal and honors. The Council of State of the Republic of Cuba grants the awards by order of the FAR minister to those who maintain an exemplary and conscientious attitude in the preparation for the war of all the people.

The military ceremony was held at the rifle range of the old Moncada Barracks and [words indistinct] combatants of production and defense, MTT [Territorial Troops Militia] members, and reservists of the FAR special troops.

In the province of Santiago de Cuba, 96 percent of the active population is involved in the defense. Last year the province contributed with over 1.6 million pesos to help pay the expenses of the MTT. Today the province is working on perfecting the plans and programs to achieve the level of ready for defense, second stage.

Castro Gives Award to Ecuadoran Painter

FL1001153489 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, yesterday granted the Felix Varela Order, First Grade, to Ecuadoran painter Oswaldo Guayasamin. Armando Hart Davalos, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo, in reading the resolution granting the order, recalled the painter's trip to revolutionary Cuba in 1960 at the invitation of Fidel, who, 28 years later in Quito, Ecuador, called him my brother Guayasamin.

PCC Central Committee Politburo members Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Vilma Espin were also present at the decoration ceremony for the famous Latin American painter. The ceremony was held at the reception hall of the Palace of the Revolution.

Afterward the commander in chief and Guayasamin spoke with members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Cuba, and with intellectuals and artists who were invited to the ceremony.

Inter-Caribbean

Tourism Officials Discuss CTO Membership

Cuba, Antigua-Barbuda Cited

FL1101014689 Bridgetown CANA in English 2235 GMT 10 Jan 89

[By Sandra Baptiste]

[Text] Bridgetown, Jan 10, CANA—Cuba, which has applied for membership of the newly-formed Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO), says it has a role to play in any future development of the region's key foreign exchange earning tourist industry.

"We hope that we can be members of the CTO because it is an organisation that can integrate all the Caribbean islands and we are part of those Caribbean islands," Marilyn Fernandez, a marketing official of the National Institute of Tourism in Havana told CANA.

Fernandez and Cuba's tourism minister, Rafael Sed Perez, are attending as observers the two-day inaugural meeting of the CTO, which is a merger of the Caribbean Tourism Association (CTA) and the Caribbean Tourism Research and Development Centre (CTRC).

"We think we would like to receive more visitors fropm the Caribbean and we can also collaborate on training and scholarships," Fernandez said. She said language was "not a problem" since the Spanish-speaking country last year attracted 300,000 tourists, mainly from Western Europe, Canada and Latin America. Tourism ranks third, after sugar and tobacco, among the pillars of the Cuban economy.

"We think we can work on multi-destination programmes so that tourists can come to these islands and then go to Cuba and vice versa," the Cuban tourism official remarked. She said Cuba which now has 9,000 hotel rooms is planning major expansion in the hotel sector over the next three years.

Meanwhile, Antigua and Barbuda which pulled out of the CTA about ten years ago but remained a CTRC member, says it is interested in the new organisation.

"We are members of CTRC. We believe in regionalism. We are looking at the new organisation and certainly consideration will be given to full membership later on," the island's director-general of tourism, Yvonne Maginley said in a CANA interview.

"We have found CTRC to be very helpful in training programmes and statistical work," Maginley admitted.

She said Antigua and Barbuda would not be looking at CTO with a view to saving money since it has sustained its own marketing programmes for several years and has seen benefits.

"We feel that the role of the CTO is to project the Caribbean area and I think each country has its own responsibility to project itself and we will continue to do that," Maginley said. Maginley reported that total air arrivals in Antigua and Barbuda in 1988 were 176,893, up from 159,207 in 1987. She said there was a "very slight decline" in arrivals from the U.S., which has slowed down at the beginning of the year but evened off towards year end.

Antigua and Barbuda, she said, was planning to double its 3,000 rooms in two years time as part of the overall expansion of tourism. But she stressed that the twin-island state was not planning to be overly dependent on tourism, even though it was the mainstay of the economy. "Although tourism is our main industry and we are truly dependent on it our government is making every effort to diversify our economy. Incentives are being given for the establishment of small industrial plants so that you can have a balance in the economy," she reported.

Cuba Applies; CTO Leader Cited

FL1101003489 Bridgetown CANA in English 2338 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 10, CANA—Three Spanish-speaking countries—Cuba, Venezuela and the Dominican Republic—were on Tuesday waiting to hear whether they would be allowed to join a new regional tourism body, the Caribbean Tourism Organisation [CTO]. Chairman of the board of directors of the CTO, Baltron Bethel, said no agreement had yet been reached on the applications for membership. The applications were one of the agenda points at the CTO's first meeting, under way here Tuesday. The CTO is a merger of the Caribbean Tourism Research and Development Centre (CTRC) and the Caribbean Tourism Association (CTA).

The Dominican Republic and Venezuela were members of the CTRC but left the organisation and are now really re-applying for membership. Last week, general secretary of the CTO, Jean Holder, seemed supportive of Venezuelan membership when he noted that the entrance of that country could open up air traffic with the lucrative Italian market.

While unwilling to comment on the acceptance of Cuba into the fold, Bethel did say that Caribbean organisations should "accomodate as many, if not all, of the countries in the region that are prepared to subscribe to democratic principles." Asked if this description included Cuba, Bethel said: "that excludes no one."

A Cuban delegate to the meeting, Marilyn Fernandez of the National Institute of Tourism, said that while they had been given no official word on their acceptance into the CTO, there had been assurances from top members of the CTO at previous meetings in the Dominican Republic and Jamaica that they would be accepted.

Fernandez said that her country was part of the Caribbean region and saw the opportunity to collaborate with the CTO as a "very good" means of working in cooperation with the rest of the Caribbean.

Antigua and Barbuda

Ruling Party Launches Election Campaign

FL0901222789 Bridgetown CANA in English 2052 GMT 9 Jan 89

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, Jan 9, CANA—The ruling Antigua Labour Party [ALP] has officially launched its campaign for upcoming general elections, constitutionally due by April this year, with a motorcade Sunday, organised jointly with the Antigua Trades and Labour Union.

ALP's Chairman Lester Bird, the country's deputy prime minister, described the rally as a "success" and said it surpassed all expectations. He said he was impressed with the enthusiastic response by supporters but expressed reservations at the number of transport vehicles that was available.

A source close to the party told CANA that about 350 cars, buses and trucks filled with supporters took part in the first of three "whistle stops" concentrated on the outskirts of St Johns, the capital. The source added that at various points ALP candidates gave short addresses in the constituencies visited.

The Labour Party and union have planned two more motorcades this month. At least eight public meetings have also been planned by the ruling party for this week.

The two main opposition parties, the United National Democratic Party [UNDP] and the Antigua-Caribbean Liberation Movement [ACLM] have also intensified their campaigns for the forthcoming polls with a series of public meeting held across the island.

The UNDP has also published a 29-point booklet of "its policies and programmes for a new direction" while the ACLM continues to criticise government policies in its weekly "OUTLET" newspaper.

Bahamas

Reportage on Visit by Taiwan's Premier Yu

Heads 'High-Level' Delegation

FL0901225789 Bridgetown CANA in English 2237 GMT 9 Jan 89

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, Jan 9, CANA—Taiwan's Premier Yu Kuo-hua on Monday began a four-day visit to the Bahamas, one of five Caribbean Community countries with which his country has diplomatic relations.

The signing of a joint communique on friendship and co-operation Tuesday is regarded as the highlight of the visit by Yu and a high-level delegation that includes two government ministers, several government officials and a 22-member party of Taiwanese journalists.

The visit is reciprocal to one made to Taiwan by a Bahamian delegation, headed by the Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling, during a promotion tour of the Far East last March and will follow closely on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Premier Yu was met at Nassau International Airport on Monday afternoon by Prime Minister Pindling and a group of Bahamian Government ministers.

Premier Yu will have official meetings with Bahamian ministers and on Wednesday will visit Freeport, Grand Bahama, for a tour of the industrial area of Freeport. He will hold a news conference Wednesday afternoon.

The visit by the high-level Chinese party is preceded by allegations from Peking that Taiwan has launched an initiative to win international support for recognition of "two Chinas" or for "one China, one Taiwan."

China has always regarded Taiwan as part of its territory and maintains diplomatic relations with several Caricom countries.

Taiwanese Envoy Named

OW1001215089 Taipei CNA in English 1616 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Nassau, the Bahamas, Jan. 10 (CNA)—Premier Yu Kuo-hwa of the Republic of China said here Monday that his government has decided to name Chang Ping-nan, former ROC envoy to the Kingdom of Lesotho, as its first ambassador to the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, the latest nation to establish diplomatic relations with the ROC.

The Chinese premier is on an official visit to the West Indian nation during which he will sign a communique with his Bahamas counterpart, Prime Minister Lynden O. Pindling, officially establishing ties between the two countries.

The nomination will be formalized as soon as the Bahamian Government gives its approval, Yu told a team of ROC reporters travelling with him on his journey, which will also take them to the Dominican Republic and Guatemala.

Chang, 58, a graduate of National Taiwan University, was a professional diplomat before assuming his current post as director of the second division of the Executive Yuan. A member of the special mission headed by Premier Yu, Chang will likely take advantage of the visit to get acquainted with Bahamian officials.

The 10-member ROC mission arrived in the Bahamian capital of Nassau at 2:30 p.m. local time to a warm greeting from Prime Minister Pindling and other ranking Bahamian officials.

Yu told Pindling he had a wonderful trip and was pleased to be in the beautiful nation. The Bahamas, a group of West Indian islands with a total area of 4,402 square miles, has a population of 240,000. It enjoys a per capita income of more than US dlrs 8,000, most of which come from foreign tourists.

Later in the day, Premier Yu and his entourage called on Bahamian Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary for External Affairs C. Maynard for an exchange of views on how to best promote future relations between the two countries.

Afterwards they were entertained at a party hosted by Maynard in celebration of the establishment of diplomatic ties between their countries. Those attending the party included Bahamian Government and political leaders as well as members of the diplomatic corps in Nassau.

Maynard welcomed the visit of Yu and his mission and pointed out that he believed the establishment of diplomatic relations with the ROC, one of Asia's newly industrialized nations, would help the development of the Bahamas in many ways.

Premier Yu responded that he had been deeply impressed by both the beauty and the progress of the Bahamas even though he had arrived only a short time earlier. He added that the ROC and the Bahamas shared many things in common and both countries were committed to promoting world peace through democracy and freedom.

Yu stressed that he believed diplomatic ties between the ROC and the Bahamas would benefit both countries and both peoples.

Full Diplomatic Ties Begun

OW1101052489 Taipei CNA in English 0427 GMT 11 Jan 89

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, Jan. 10 (CNA)—The Republic of China and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas established full diplomatic relations Tuesday as Premier Yu Kuo-hua and Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling jointly signed a communique on behalf of their nations at the Churchill Mansion in Nassau.

In the communique, both governments agreed to enhance cultural, educational, and sports exchanges; improve trade and economic ties; and to further science, technology, and investment exchanges on the basis of mutual respect and mutual benefit.

In an address marking the historical event, Prime Minister Pindling lauded the achievements of the Republic of China in scientific and technological development as well as in agriculture and fishery development, saying that these achievements are worthy examples to be followed by the Bahamas.

Pindling said any entrepreneurs or individuals from Taiwan, approved by the Government of the Republic of China, are welcome to invest or start businesses in the Bahamas. The Bahamas Government will offer every possible financial assistance, including offshore banking, he said.

The Bahamas prime minister said he hopes the Republic of China will help the Bahamas set up manufacturing or assembling plants through the ROC Overseas Economic Cooperation and Development Fund.

A technology fact-finding group from the Bahamas will be sent shortly to the Republic of China to explore opinions for future cooperation, Pindling said.

Echoing Pindling's remarks, Premier Yu said the Government of the Republic of China will try its utmost to further cooperation between the two nations. He hoped that the two nations would send ambassadors to each other's country in the near future.

Premier Yu said as an experienced and enthusiastic member of the Third World, the Republic of China would be delighted to help the Bahamas solve its problems and meet its needs.

In 1955, Yu recalled, when he was the director of the Central Trust of China, the Republic of China had foreign exchange reserves of only U.S. $300 million, and the nation had an agriculture-intensive economy heavily dependent on rice and sugar exports. Three decades later, in 1988, the foreign exchange reserves in the ROC exceeded U.S. $60 billion, and the Government was pleading with its people to consume more of its rice surplus.

As the nation had a huge trade surplus for a long time, the ROC Government is trying hard to slow the growth of the nation's exports, Yu told his Bahamas friends.

As an old banker himself, Yu said he would see to it that the Republic of China will enhance financial cooperation with the Bahamas.

Premier Yu had high praise for the Bahamas' tourist industry, saying that the Republic of China could learn more about tourism development from the Bahamas. He also mentioned that, in future, fishing boats from Taiwan will be allowed to use port facilities and services in the Bahamas.

Dominican Republic

* 1988 Tourism Receipts To Total $600 Million

32480048B Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 6 Dec 88 p 12

[Article by Tulio Navarrete]

[Text] Secretary of Tourism Fernando Rainieri announced last night that by the end of this year the country will have received more than 800,000 visitors traveling by air, which represents revenues of more than $600 million.

Rainieri spoke in the presence of President Joaquin Balaguer from a podium set up in the National Palace. His speech was broadcast on television throughout the nation on Dominican Radio and Television (RTVD).

The official asserted that the dollars the country will earn on tourist visits represent "approximately one-third of the total foreign exchange income of the nation."

Rainieri explained that this amount does not include the figures corresponding to tourism investment, as it is attributable to "receptive tourism." He noted that it, in turn, generates "some 30,000 direct jobs," and when that amount is added to the indirect and induced jobs, "the total is more than 100,000 jobs."

He expressed the opinion that these figures show without a doubt that "from now on, the future of our economy is closely linked to the future of our tourism sector."

As for air travel from countries such as France, FRG, Italy, Spain, England, and Switzerland, he stated that in 1988 and 1989 the airlines Air France, Iberia, Condor, Viasa-Dominicana, Air Europe, Lufthansa, Orion, and others "will have more passenger seats available for foreign tourists to fly from Europe to this country than they did between 1979 and 1986."

Rainieri pointed out that from 1 November this year to 30 November 1989 "about 100,000 passengers are expected to be flown to our ports from Germany, France, and England, countries from which we received no flights at all prior to 1987."

With regard to the visits of more than 800,000 tourists this year, the head of tourism stated that this figure "represents a growth of more than 21 percent over 1987."

In his speech, the text of which was 11 pages long, Rainieri emphasized the willingness of the Balaguer administration to support tourism plans, beginning with the implementation of a policy of more flexible open skies. This has allowed many foreign airlines to fly into the country, thus broadening the coverage of visitors.

Rainieri stated that the reports of the Caribbean Tourism Research Center indicate that the growth in the flow of tourism from Europe to the Caribbean "will represent a 25-percent increase over 1987 by the close of the year. The increase in tourism to our country, on the other hand, will exceed 60 percent."

He reported that by 1989 the Dominican Republic will be "the number-one Caribbean country chosen by European tourists for their vacations."

Concerning the number of hotel rooms, the official announced that by the end of this year the country will have about 16,000, located in the principal tourism centers.

Rainieri indicated that toward the end of 1989, the national and foreign private sectors will have begun building and put into operation the same number of rooms that were built and put into operation in "the 30 years prior to 16 May 1986. This rate of expansion is simply spectacular."

* Government To Invest 2.96 Billion Pesos

32480048c Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish 9 Dec 88 pp 1, 4

[Article by Conde Olmos Golibart]

[Text] Public investment by the government in 1989 will amount to 2,960,128,626.73 pesos, including Fund 1401 of the Presidency. This is 1.5 billion pesos more than what was invested in the rural and urban sectors up to August of this year.

This information was provided by the technical secretary of the presidency, Guillermo Caram. He stated that the total amount of the budget has not yet been calculated, although he indicated that the investment categories in the draft budget will be more than 1 billion pesos higher than 1988 investments.

Caram supplied the information in response to a questionnaire submitted by EL CARIBE at his office in the National Palace.

He added that the areas to which most government investment will be channeled are energy, aqueducts, transportation, housing, agriculture, and irrigation. He did not reveal how much will be earmarked for each of these categories.

In addition, the official stated that he does not know the exact date on which President Joaquin Balaguer will convene the National Development Council and Congress to present and discuss the draft budget for 1989. He said that this information will be provided at the appropriate time.

The technical secretary is the executive secretary of the Council, and it is his job to carry out the technical tasks related to the body's functions, under Law 55 of 30 November 1965.

According to that legislation, the National Development Council is comprised of the president of the republic, who is its chairman; the secretaries of finance, public works and communications, agriculture, education, public health, and labor; the governor of the Central Bank, the technical secretary of the presidency, "and such other officials as the president of the republic should decide to appoint."

In addition, the directors of budget and planning are adjunct members of the Council; they have a voice but no vote.

When it is convened by the president of the republic, the entity will study the draft budget and make the appropriate recommendations to the administration, which must submit the budget to Congress to be made law.

Since the legislative chambers are in recess, the president must call a special session for the exclusive purpose of examining the public spending bill.

The budget and public spending bill for this year was passed in mid-December 1987.

On several occasions government officials have asserted that the 1989 budget will be slightly larger than the one executed in 1988.

According to a document written by the technical secretary of the presidency, as of August the government had invested a total of 1,460,128,626.73 pesos, of which the agriculture-livestock and industrial sectors received 18 percent.

The document states that the government invested 250,779,654.11 pesos in the agriculture-livestock sector, with 248,807,734.64 pesos going to the countryside. Industrial promotion accounted for an investment of 25,797,568.50 pesos, of which more than 95 percent went to urban projects.

In addition, under the category labeled "living conditions," which includes housing, education, environmental sanitation, health, rural development, and streets and avenues, a total of 663,542,400.10 pesos was invested.

The largest amount was earmarked for housing, with 282,463,841.42 pesos. Health and education together accounted for only 96,828,993.64 pesos, of which 34,518,622.13 corresponded to education and 62,310,371.51 to health.

The environmental sanitation category received a total of 163,792,128.28 pesos, while streets and avenues received an investment of 91,697,251.84 pesos.

Moreover, the country's infrastructure, which includes the energy, transportation and communications, and canals and irrigation sectors, received investments of 353,833,967.47 pesos, 24.23 percent of investment as of the month of August.

Of these categories, transportation and communications received the largest share, 172,362,101.27 pesos, of which 119,385,797.08 went to rural areas.

The country invested 96,880,647.89 pesos in production and improvements to energy systems, while 84,591,218.31 pesos was allocated to the construction of canals and irrigation systems.

Total public investment as of August was rounded out with 166,175,036.55 pesos invested in the restoration and construction of monuments, capital contributions to institutions, purchase of machinery and equipment, payment for improvements and evictions, sports projects, community facilities, and other construction.

Jamaica

Arms Shipment Linked to Colombian Insurgents

FL0901175689 Bridgetown CANA in English 2228 GMT 7 Jan 89

[By Paget de Freitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 7, CANA—Jamaica intercepted 10 tonnes of arms destined for a Colombian insurgent group, foiling a brazen plan to use the island as a trans-shipment point for the weapons, national security minister, Errol Anderson said on Saturday. The arms, which arrived here from Lisbon aboard a Panamanian-registered freighter on December 22, were turned over to the Colombian military and flown out of the island on Friday.

Three Colombian citizens, among eight persons held, were deported on the same Colombian military plane that left with the arms. Two Panamanians were also deported Friday and two others as well as a Briton were to follow Sunday.

"It was learned that the arms were destined for a leftist Colombian insurgent group called the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, known as FARC," Anderson told journalists. "This group is in league with and financed by Colombian cocaine traffickers," the Jamaican minister added. "In fact, questioning revealed that the arms shipment was paid for by cocaine sent to Europe," he said.

Both Anderson and Police Commissioner Herman Ricketts declined to name the deportees as well as Jamaicans under watch as part of the delicate nature of wider investigation of plans to use the island as a major trans-shipment point for cocaine. "Jamaica was chosen for trans-shipment of the weapons because it was to be used in the future for trans-shipping cocaine to Europe and more arms to Colombia," Anderson said at the news conference, held at the Army headquarters, Up Park Camp. [as received]

According to the Jamaican officials, the smugglers were meticulous in an attempt to make the shipment of the German-made arms appear legitamate. Proper manifests were sent listing the arms—1000 HK automatic assault rifles, 250 HK21 machine guns, ten 6 mm commando mortars and 600 rounds of high explosive 60 mm motor shells—and the end-user certificate named the Colombian Government as the owner. The end-user certificate also called for another 30 tonnes of arms to pass through Jamaica, Anderson pointed out.

In accordance with normal procedures the local shipping company asked to handle the arms requested routine storage of the arms at the Army headquarters as well as protection for the movement of the arms to the airport for a flight to Colombia. Anderson said, however, that

Jamaican officials became suspicious when they questioned why the Colombians would use a private air cargo company out of the United States to fly the arms to that country instead of using their own military jets.

Questions to the Colombian military authorities disclosed that the documents produced to Jamaica were forged and that Bogota had no arms consignment passing through this Caribbean island. Anderson said that this led to an international dialogue involving several countries, including the United States.

The issue was first made public Friday by opposition People's National Party (PNP) security spokesman, K.D Knight, who claimed that his party had received information that some of the arms had reached certain communities in Kingston. Knight had warned that the issue could hold serious consequences for Jamaica and the imminent general elections here.

But Anderson completely rejected the claim that any of the arms had been diverted. I wish to assure the public that all weapons are accounted for and correspond with the customs declaration. Nothing was diverted or delivered to Kingston neighbourhoods, he said.

Anderson said that he had not made an earlier disclosure of the find because of the investigation that led to the detention of the eight foreigners early Thursday in a Kingston hotel. The other countries involved in the investigation had also asked for secrecy in addition to fears of reprisals. Not even the Colombian Embassy here was informed of the investigations at the request of Bogota, intelligence sources here said. Jamaica and other countries involved in the investigation are on alert for reprisals, officials said. He had planned to make discreet announcement, Anderson said.

In fact, Army Chief Robert Neish said he received a threatening phone call early Saturday. Neish told reporters that the caller—whose accent was more Middle Eastern that Latin American—made vague threats if the detained persons and arms were not released. He said that "their" quarrel was not with Jamaica, but with the United States, Neish reported.

Police Commissioner Ricketts said that with the development "every foreigner coming through Jamaica will be scrutinised".

Anderson said that Jamaica had not sought to take the detained foreigners through the local courts after the difficulties pointed by government legal officials. Although denying that Kingston sought the easiest way out, he pointedly conceded: "The problem is basically a Colombian problem."

Poll Says PNP Heading for 'Landslide' Victory

FL0901223689 Bridgetown CANA in English 1834 GMT 9 Jan 89

[By Paget de Freitas]

[Excerpt] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 9, CANA—A new opinion poll here suggests that the opposition People's National Party is heading for a landslide victory in forthcoming general elections as Prime Minister Edward Seaga prepares to announce the date for the poll this weekend.

Pollster Professor Carl Stone said the socialist PNP enjoyed a 13 percent support over Seaga's Jamaica Labour Party among potential voters here—48 percent to the JLP's 35 percent, with 17 percent showing no interest in the election. These results mean that since mid-October the PNP, in the Stone polls, gained two percent while the ruling party lost one point. The net PNP gain was, therefore, three points. Among committed voters, the PNP's lead was 15.6 percent, with a 57.8 percent for the opposition party and 42.2 percent for the JLP.

Stone, who has been accurately forecasting Jamaican election results since 1972, conducted his survey between December 16 and 19, interviewing 2,400 persons in all 60 constituencies. His sample error was estimated at 2.5 percent.

Stone's findings, which run counter to expectations by Prime Minister Seaga and pollster Don Anderson, of a close election, indicate a continued strengthening of the PNP since the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Gilbert when it slipped sharply. Shortly after the hurricane a Stone poll showed PNP support among committed voters at 51 percent, down from 57.6 percent just before the hurricane. The JLP only a grasp away with 49 percent, was up from 42.4 percent.

"PNP strength has...returned to its high point prior to Hurricane Gilbert when between January and September PNP strength stood at 57 percent—58 percent of the two party vote," wrote Stone in the GLEANER newspaper which publishes his polls.

Added the pollster: "The trend in 1988 poll findings indicates that JLP support among all voters (including the non-committed) has remained relatively stable at about 35 percent to 36 percent between January and December while it has been the PNP which has been fluctuating since Gilbert," he said.

However, polls by Anderson, who heads the Company Market Research Services, has shown a steady march by the JLP on the PNP throughout 1988. In January, Anderson was showing the PNP with a near 15 percent lead over the JLP among committed voters, with respective support of 57.4 percent and 42.6 percent.

In his latest survey, conducted between late November and early [words indistinct] down to five percent. The PNP's standing in that survey was 52.5 percent against the JLP's: 43.5 percent. Further, Anderson found, 58 percent of the committed voters said Seaga and his JLP were better suited to carry out the rebuilding of Jamaica, against 42 percent for Manley and his party, after the destruction by Hurricane Gilbert. [passage omitted]

St Lucia

Leftist Leader Condemns Libyan Aircraft Downing

FL1001002089 Bridgetown CANA in English 1949 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Jan 10, CANA—Head of the small left leaning Progressive Labour Party (PLP) of St. Lucia, George Odlum, has called on Caribbean Community (Caricom) leaders to condemn what he described as "U.S. state terrorism" and last week's bombing of two Libyan aircraft.

"The bombing of the two Libyan jet fighters must be seen realistically as yet another act of state terrorism executed by the Reagan administration," Odlum said in an article appearing in his party's weekly CRUSADER newspaper.

U.S. carrier-based fighter planes shot down two Libyan MiGs over the Mediterranean on January 4 after the MiGs made what the U.S. Defence Department called threatening moves. The parachutes of the Libyan pilots were spotted afterwards.

Odlum, a former foreign minister, said it was clear that, following the American attack on the cities of Tripoli and Benghazi in April, 1986 the U.S. shooting down of the Libyan aircraft was meant to destroy the geopolitical influence of Libya, "both in its domestic policies and its international posture."

Odlum said that the explanations given by the United States for the incident appear to be as specious as those given for previous attacks on Libya when it claimed that the country was involved in international terrorism.

"There is massive evidence to show that Libya was in no way involved in the operation in Rome and Vienna and at the Berlin night club," he said, adding, "the subsequent revelations concerning the disinformation campaigns organised by the United States against Libya showed the world the pattern of deception and false accusation."

Odlum, who recently returned here from a visit to Libya where he claimed to have had a near 90 minute meeting with leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, said that at a time when there is an international mood for peace and reconciliation, "these acts of blatant provocation by the United States should be denounced by Caricom leaders."

Reportage on Arrest of Pemex Trade Union Leader

Reportedly Confined in Tampico

FL1001183389 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Tampico, Mexico, 10 Jan (NOTIMEX)—It has been unofficially reported that a group from the Mexican Army today detained Pemex leader Joaquin Hernandez Galicia for charges which have not yet been made public.

The arrest of the Pemex trade union leader was made after his home was cordoned off and the front door was shot open with a bazooka.

Hernandez Galicia, also known by the nickname "La Quina," is reportedly under confinement in the Eighth Military Zone in the port of Tampico in the northeastern state of Tamaulipas.

Weapons Seized, Charges Brought

FL1001200889 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1818 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jan (NOTIMEX)—Close to 20 leaders of the Revolutionary Trade Union of Mexican Oil Workers (SRTPRM), including Joaquin Hernandez Galicia and Jose Sosa Martinez, were detained this morning on charges of illegally accumulating weapons and contraband and other illicit activities.

Members of the Mexican Attorney General's Office (PGR) and a special agent of the Public Ministry, supported by members of the Mexican Army, participated in the operation, which resulted in an armed confrontation.

According to government sources, the operation took place because Hernandez Galicia (virtual oil leader) and other leaders of the trade union sought to paralyze Mexican oil installations and affect the national economy as a whole with a very well-orchestrated conspiracy against national security.

The security forces found 200 automatic Uzi's and an arsenal of 40,000 to 50,000 cartridges.

As of this morning, authorities were still preparing a report on the incident in which at least one person from the Public Ministry was killed. He has been identified only by the last name of Zamora.

It was reported that at 1130 (1630 GMT) the detained oil leaders were being taken to Mexico City. It is expected that the Attorney General's Office will have a complete report by mid-afternoon and that Attorney General Enrique Alvarez del Castillo will later hold a news conference.

20 Arrested; Agent Killed

FL1001194189 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1826 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jan (NOTIMEX)—The Mexican Attorney General's Office (PGR) today confirmed the detention of Pemex leader Joaquin Hernandez Galicia, La Quina [nickname], for the alleged introduction of weapons into the country.

Detained along with Hernandez Galicia were 20 other people, including Jose Sosa Martinez, former secretary general of the National Revolutionary Trade Union of Mexican Oil Workers. The detainees are currently being transferred from the port of Tampico to Mexico City.

It was also reported that during Hernandez Galicia's arrest, one of the agents of the Public Ministry participating in the detention was killed. He was allegedly shot by one of Hernandez Galicia's bodyguards.

Another Warrant Issued

FL1001210489 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1952 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jan (NOTIMEX)—Government sources reported today that Salvador Barragan Camacho, secretary general of the Trade Union of Petroleum Workers of the Mexican Republic [STPRM], will be turned over to the Attorney General's Office.

A federal judge in the eastern state of Veracruz issued today an arrest warrant against Barragan Camacho, who is charged with the illegal collection of weapons, contraband, and other illegal activities.

Hours before, several oil leaders were detained in the northeastern towns of Tampico and Ciudad Madero with the same charges. There were threats that they were planning to paralyze Pemex installations and attempting to damage the national economy as a whole.

Joaquin Hernandez Galicia, La Quina [nickname]; Jose Sosa Martinez, former secretary general of the union; and Encarnacion Kuri Diaz, political adviser of the union, are among the leaders arrested.

The authorities did not specify where they will be confined but most of them are in Mexico City.

'Blackmail and Corruption' Cited

FL1001214089 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2012 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jan (NOTIMEX)—Judicial sources stated today that the action taken against oil leaders is not aimed against trade unions or workers' sectors.

The action taken by federal authorities is in response to a fundamentally judicial matter and it has nothing to do with a labor problem, they added.

They also said authorities had identified the intentions of this group of leaders: to make an effort against the unity and structure of the Confederation of Mexican Workers (CTM) and take control.

Twenty-one leaders of this trade union were arrested in Tampico and Ciudad Madero (northeastern part of the country) this morning. Among them are Joaquin Hernandez Galicia, called La Quina, leader for life of the trade union; Jose Sosa Martinez, former secretary general of the union; and Jose Encarnacion Kuri Diaz, political adviser. An arrest warrant was also issued against Salvador Barragan Camacho.

The judicial officials asserted that the people arrested today have a long history of blackmail and corruption.

Sources close to the oil sector leadership indicated that this history includes the spending of hundreds of thousands of dollars in casinos in Las Vegas and that some of them have owned properties in Mexico and abroad valued up to 500 billion pesos.

Several of the leaders detained today have been linked in the past to the murders of Heriberto Kehoe Vincent and Oscar Torres Pancardo, both leaders of the oil trade union's Section 30, who did not submit to the control of Hernandez Galicia, known as La Quina.

Work Stoppages Reported

PA1001222789 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2050 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jan (DPA)—Thousands of Mexican oil workers held a work stoppage today to protest the arrest of their leader for life, Joaquin Hernandez Galicia, "La Quina," and 20 other union leaders.

According to information reported in this city, the workers of the Veracruz and Tamaulipas oil centers halted work upon hearing the news of the arrest of their "moral leader" in Ciudad Madero, Tampico, 450 km northwest of Mexico City, during an operation carried out by the Army and the Attorney General's Office.

Hernandez Galicia, accused of gunrunning, was arrested following an armed clash between soldiers and Galicia's bodyguards. One Federal Judicial policeman was killed in the shoot-out.

Approximately 9,000 Reynosa center workers, on the border with the United States, stopped working and staged a protest demonstration. The workers in other Pemex production centers in the Gulf of Mexico did likewise. These installations were today placed under military protection.

Arrested along with Hernandez Galicia were other union leaders, including Salvador Barragan Camacho, a former senator and the union's chief. All of them have frequently been accused of corruption.

Army Guarding Plants

FL1001234389 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2213 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jan (NOTIMEX)—The Mexican Army is guarding all of the country's oil plants because of threats of possible work stoppages after the Attorney General's Office (PGR) reported today the arrest of Joaquin Hernandez Galicia "La Quina," oil workers' leader for life, on charges of illegally possessing weapons.

The PGR explained that during a visit made this morning to the home of Hernandez Galicia, secretary of social action of the oil workers trade union, Federal Judicial Police officers, backed by the Army, had to respond to the resistance given by the people inside the home. This started a shoot-out which resulted in the death of Gerardo Antonio Zamora Rioja, a Public Ministry agent.

The PGR added that 40 weapons of various calibers, 200 submachineguns, and 20,000 cartridges were found in the house. This supports the alleged involvement of the people arrested, who are subject to investigation of the crimes of collection of weapons and contraband, in accordance with the current federal law on firearms and explosives, and apparently homicide, among other crimes.

For his part, Salvador Barragan Camacho, secretary general of the Trade Union of Petroleum Workers of the Mexican Republic (STPRM), blamed the Mexican Army and those who support Mario Ramon Beteta, governor of the central state of Mexico, for the actions taken against workers' union leaders.

A couple of months ago Mario Ramon Beteta was accused of embezzlement of funds by the oil workers union, challenged by opposition political parties, and later exonerated by the Mexican Chamber of Deputies.

Barragan Camacho said in a news conference that the government has acted against the oil workers union. He added: The government has let the opposition parties tell them the truths, but we, who are part of the system, get this.

Barragan was asked if this was not retaliation for the support given by oil workers to the center-leftist National Democratic Front (FDN) headed by Cuauhtemoc Cardenas Solorzano. In response to this question, he said: We do not support Cardenism. We have people from all parties in our organization, although the majority supports the PRI (ruling party). We have no reason to continue being part of it if we do not get support from our party.

Hundreds of oil workers gathered outside the Confederation of Mexican Workers (CTM) early this morning and said: We will demonstrate in Mexico City's Zocalo and against President Carlos Salinas de Gortari until our leader is returned to us.

CTM leader Fidel Velazquez Sanchez said the existing relations and dialogue between the labor sector and the state are not jeopardized by the arrest of several oil worker leaders and insisted that this is not a reason for the oil industry to be halted.

In the meantime, the Army is guarding the installations in the southern city of Villahermosa, Tabasco, and all the oil plants in the country because of the threat of stoppages by the workers.

As of 1500 today (2100 GMT), it was reported that work was suspended in the oil installations in Ciudad Madero, Tamaulipas; Cadereyta; Reynosa; Tula, Hidalgo; La Cangrejera and Azcapotzalco in the Federal District, and Pemex' general offices in Mexico City and Veracruz.

'Section 40' Leader Comments

FL1101000589 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2225 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Monterrey, Mexico, 10 Jan (NOTIMEX)—Jesus Mendoza de Leon, secretary general of Section 40, asserted today that the oil workers union in the northern state of Nuevo Leon will not take any action that would disturb social peace as a result of the arrest of its leader, Joaquin Hernandez Galicia, La Quina.

He added that he does not know the details of the arrest of the oil workers leaders and that he was waiting for instructions from the national leadership and would act accordingly.

Regarding the work stoppage at the Ciudad Madero refinery, in the northwestern state of Tamaulipas, Mendoza de Leon said workers will not let themselves be driven by their emotions.

Workers Continue Zocalo Rally

PA1101030889 Paris AFP in Spanish 0036 GMT 11 Jan 89

[Report by Eduardo Garcia Aguilar]

[Text]Mexico City, 10 Jan (AFP)—Thousands of trade union members from the state-owned enterprise Pemex continued arriving this afternoon at the Zocalo (main plaza) in Mexico City in front of the Presidential Palace to protest the arrest today of their leader, Joaquin Hernandez Galicia, also known as "La Quina."

While shouting "We want Joaquin," the leaders of various departments of the Trade Union of Petroleum Workers of the Mexican Republic (STPRM) climbed onto a platform set up over the "mobile neighborhood" (barriomovil), a popular vehicle used at demonstrations by the left-wing opposition.

This morning, in Ciudad Madero, 340 km north of Mexico City, "La Quina" and 20 other high-ranking labor leaders were arrested and charged with illegal possession of weapons and with corruption, which precipitated a clash with police that left one worker [as received] dead.

"This is a peaceful protest action against the way our leader was arrested, as if he were a common criminal. We are not going to let the government provoke us," said one of the men who is organizing the demonstration and who did not disclose his name.

Hundreds of workers were reading a special edition of the ULTIMAS NOTICIAS, which published an eight-column article under the headline "La Quina Finally Caught," and were awaiting instructions for today, while buses continue arriving with workers from the Azcapotzalco and Tula Refineries, where work has been stopped.

When one of the labor leaders said he was protesting Hernandez Galicia's arrest "although I am a PRI member," demonstrators immediately began to hiss at him, forcing him to descend from the platform.

The petroleum workers labor union leaders have traditionally belonged to the PRI, the ruling party for the past 60 years.

"We are going to remain here until they return Joaquin to us safe and sound. We are willing to give our lives for our friends, who are the ones concerned about the people," said Laura, a local trade union representative.

"If they do not release Joaquin, we are going to go to the mountains," a worker said, while one of the speakers demanded the arrest of former Pemex director and current Mexico City Governor Mario Ramon Beteta, who was recently accused by STPRM deputies of fraud totalling $49 million while at Pemex.

The petroleum trade union, regarded as the most powerful in the country with 155,000 members and vast property holdings, had recently had problems with the government after the charges against Beteta were made.

Solana To Attend Venezuelan Inauguration

FL0901231489 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2236 GMT 9 Jan 89

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Jan (NOTIMEX)—Mexican Foreign Secretary Fernando Solana will join the country's government representatives to the inauguration of Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez.

The Mexican Foreign Secretariat reported that the appointment was made by President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, who met with this Venezuelan counterpart last week and received the official invitation to attend the change of powers in Venezuela.

At this time, Salinas de Gortari thanked him for the invitation and apologized for not being able to attend because of a heavy workload related to priority domestic matters. Nevertheless, he told Andres Perez he will visit Venezuela during the middle of this year.

Police Actions Against Drug Traffickers Noted

Dec Moves Summarized

PA1001170289 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 3 Jan 89 p 7

[Summary] "The National Defense Secretariat has dealt harsh blows to drug trafficking over the past few days with the destruction of 2,918 poppy plants, 2,054 marijuana plants, 10,173 kg of marijuana, 54 kg of poppy seeds, 1 kg of cocaine, a secret landing strip, a camp, and 3 marijuana dryers [secadores de marijuana]."

In addition, Army troops arrested 313 suspected Mexican drug traffickers and 2 foreigners. They seized 452 firearms, 106 vehicles, 3 airplanes, 106 kg of marijuana seeds, 14 kg of poppy seeds, 4 kg of opium paste, 7 houses, 22,907,000 pesos, and $21,550.

Meanwhile, the Federal Judicial Police [PJF] seized 29,000 kg of marijuana and 156 kg of pure cocaine during December. They arrested and pressed charges against 555 suspected drug traffickers during the same period. The PJF also destroyed 2,760 marijuana and poppy fields in 49 hectares located in various parts of the republic. The monthly statistics also show that 19 people were arrested with 156 kg of cocaine, 490 with 22,680 kg of marijuana, and 29 with 3 kg of opium paste and heroin.

Marijuana Seized, 10 Arrested

PA0901125289 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 0130 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Summary] On 7 January, the Mexican Federal Judicial Police confiscated 1.5 tons of marijuana in Tamaulipas and Oaxaca States. Ten alleged drug traffickers were arrested as a result of the narcotics operations.

Shoot-Out, Confiscation Noted

PA1001195589 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Summary] "In Jalisco, the Federal Judicial Police seized 3 tons of marijuana. During a clash with suspected traffickers, policemen arrested two and another four were killed in the action." The incident occurred at La Mesa ranch, Venustiano Carranza Municipality. The drug had already been packed in bundles, ready to be sold, and was to be sent to Ciudad Juarez.

El Salvador

Legislative Assembly's Electoral Code Reforms

PA1101044189 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Report by Marco Antonio Guevara—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpts] The Legislative Assembly today published in two of the country's largest newspapers Decree No 132, which reforms the electoral code. The decree was originally scheduled to be published last Friday. The controversial Decree No 132 will become law in 8 days.

The publication of this law, which reforms the electoral code, is reportedly based on an alleged refusal by the Executive Branch to publish this decree in the official gazette during a 15-day period that expired on 4 January.

[National Republican Alliance Deputy Roberto Angulo] "Article No 139 sets no time limit for the Legislative Assembly to publish the decree. We received a note on Friday from the Presidency which we believed had to be reviewed. That is why, following instructions from the Legislative Assembly president, we instructed the newspapers not to publish the decree on Saturday, 7 January."

Deputy Roberto Angulo explained, however, that after reviewing President Duarte's note, they reached the conclusion that the law should be published Monday.

[Angulo] "There is no other procedure in the constitution to withdraw it or to issue a new decree."

In the decree published Monday, the original text of Articles 33 and 40 has been deleted because of a Supreme Court ruling, and an explanation has been inserted.

It is the first time that an explanation of this kind has been inserted, and it is also the first time that the Legislative Assembly has passed a decree to complete the process of the creation of a law.

[Angulo] "A deadlock has obviously been reached by the Supreme Court, which kept the documents that the executive branch sent it. This is not stipulated in the constitution." [passage omitted]

Whether the Executive Branch was right or wrong in refusing to publish the decree is unknown, because there is much confusion about the decree. The last word regarding the decree remains to be heard, especially if the publication of the decree leads to an appeal to the Supreme Court.

CEL Reports Cost of Guerrilla Attacks

PA1101003889 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Summary] The annual report issued by the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, CEL, says millions of colons were lost due to FMLN sabotage. CEL records show that the secondary power distribution system was attacked 259 times and the power transmission system was attacked 500 times. Actual direct costs to replace power poles, electrical lines, and other structures totaled 1.686 million colons for the secondary distribution system and 24.756 million colons for the transmission system. Costs covering installations that were attacked add up to 4,559,204 colons. Diesel burned for emergency generating cost 9,093,193 colons. Damaged vehicles cost 291,903 colons and various regional costs to keep the system operating totaled 5,042,445 colons.

Guatemala

New Clandestine Organization Threatens Criminals

PA0801161889 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 5 Jan 89 p 7

[Text] A new clandestine organization comparable to the death squads has claimed responsibility for the murder of 35-year-old businessman Hector Augusto Gonzalez on 13 December. The crime occurred at the Herrera building on 5th Avenue and 12th Street in the 1st zone.

Gonzalez was murdered by two armed individuals, a man and a woman, who broke into his office and shot him to death.

In a press communique surreptitiously sent to our office, the self-styled "Jaguar Justice, the Double J" [Jaguar Justiciero, la Doble J] warns that the same fate will befall swindlers who unjustly steal money from Guatemalans with the false pretext of building or selling them homes.

The communique states that the emergence of this organization stems from the unpostponable need to fight crime in light of the judicial branch's incompetence, which is caused by corruption.

The document charges that the Executive Branch does not pursue criminals properly and, using human rights as a pretext, behaves in the same way as those who protect these criminals—crooked lawyers and others, the document adds in brackets.

The organization's principles compel its members to persecute, capture, and duly punish all criminals regardless of their social strata.

The communique stresses that all thieves, murderers, gang members, robbers, children traders, corrupt bureaucrats, and leftist and rightist political gangsters will be punished.

The document also states that in no case will "the Double J" punish individuals for political or ideological reasons, because the organization respects the people's freedoms of speech and of choice. However, the organization asserts it will be unrelenting with those who commit crimes against honest people in the name of political or ideological causes.

The organization explains that it is undertaking this historic task to fill in the gap left by the state and its institutions. We have started to dismantle the reign of injustice, the document concludes.

Minister's Reaction

PA0801165089 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] A clandestine communique issued in Guatemala City announced the appearance of an organization that calls itself JJ or Just Jaguar, created allegedly to punish criminals at all levels whose crimes are left unpunished because of deficiencies or corruption in the administration of justice or because of the security forces performance. Government Minister Roberto Valle Baldizan commented today on the appearance of this alleged armed clandestine group, which claimed responsibility for the murder of a businessman on 13 December.

[Begin recording] [Valle] They claim they want to take actions against criminals, but they should bear in mind that what they are doing is acting like plain criminals. People who want to take justice into their own hands and who believe they have some sort of right to do it are wrong. If they want to help Guatemalan citizens fight criminals so that we may live in an atmosphere of peace, harmony, and development, the least they could and should do is to act as decent citizens, to cooperate with the authorities, and to abstain from these kinds of actions that are truly shameful.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, regarding the murder of a businessman at Herrera building at [words indistinct], will they be tried for this crime?

[Valle] Of course. They are already giving some clues to us since they are saying they perpetrated the crime. If we are able to detect who the members of the group are, we will take drastic actions, because, I repeat, the actions they claim they are carrying out for the benefit of our society are criminal actions that should be rejected by all Guatemalans. Therefore, it is unreasonable that irresponsible people, such as the members of this group, come to destroy what has taken the Guatemalan people a long time to attain. [end recording]

Police Seize Large Cocaine Shipment in Zone 13

PA0801152689 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Summary] Guatemalan authorities held a news conference today to report the seizure of a cocaine shipment worth $69 million. The authorities had received a tip on drugs being transported in a vehicle with California license plates. The vehicle was spotted in zone 13, Guatemala City, and 349 kg of cocaine were seized. Two Colombians, believed to be members of an international drug cartel operating in Guatemala, were arrested. The drug traffickers intended to smuggle the drugs into the United States and Europe.

Honduras

Government Deports Contra Commander to U.S.

PA0601020389 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Report by Elan Reyes Pineda]

[Text] Today dissident contra commander Encarnacion Hernandez, alias "Tigrillo," will be deported to Miami for the second time. Honduran authorities have reported that he violated the country's immigration laws. The truth is that the rebel commander is returning to exile for opposing the abuses of former Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez.

Once again, a faction of the Nicaraguan contras has gotten into trouble with the Honduran Armed Forces. This time it is "Tigrillo" who was active in Paraiso and Olancho Departments. According to reports received by Radio America [Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video], "Tigrillo" commanded several thousand combatants who remained loyal to him.

"Tigrillo" was deported to the United States for the first time in March after serving with well-known Commanders "Fernando," "Tono," and "Rigoberto," who are also enemies of Colonel Enrique Bermudez. It has been reported that these three commanders are still in exile in Miami, where they are forced to carry out only political activities to help their comrades who fight the Sandinists at the border with Honduras.

According to the Honduran Armed Forces, "Tigrillo" will be put aboard a local, commercial airliner bound for Miami at the Toncontin International Airport early today.

The Honduran Government was severely criticized most of last year for its open support for a faction of the Nicaraguan contras, who are now divided over economic and power issues, who sided with Bermudez. Nevertheless, Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras, who learned of the rebel commander's capture, denied this support for Bermudez and said all the contras have been dealt with in the same way. [Lopez recording indistinct].

Everything seems to indicate that the contras' internal crisis will not end, because while some contras can move freely through a sector of Honduras to fight the Sandinists, others will not be able to enter the country again to fight for what they describe as Nicaragua's freedom.

Nicaragua

Ortega, FSLN Officials Welcome Milos Jakes

PA0701035989 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Text] Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega today welcomed Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, with full honors. Jakes will have a busy official schedule during his 48-hour visit to Managua.

Jakes was welcomed at the capital's airport by Ortega and other members of the FSLN National Directorate, the government cabinet, and the diplomatic corps accredited to Nicaragua.

Upon arrival, the top-level Czechoslovak leader expressed his thanks for the welcome and added that his visit is in response to an invitation from the FSLN. He will try to acquaint himself with the situation in our country and strengthen the friendship between our two nations.

This evening Jakes will receive the Nicaraguan Government's highest award, the Augusto Cesar Sandino Order, in a solemn ceremony presided over by President Ortega and the FSLN National Directorate.

In his welcoming speech, President Daniel Ortega said:

[Begin recording] [Ortega] We have relations based on revolutionary principles and those relations have become stronger throughout the years. Comrade Jakes and his delegation have come to reassert and strengthen those relations. We welcome them on behalf of the FSLN and the Nicaraguan people.

[Jakes, in venacular with superimposed Spanish translation] I thank everyone for the warm welcome. We are pleased to arrive in the heroic land of Nicaragua. We have come to reassert our support for the Nicaraguan people's just struggle, to speak with the country's leaders and representatives, to exchange views on the international situation, and to strengthen our mutual relations. On this occasion I would like to extend our greetings to all the Nicaraguan people and to wish them success in the struggle for a better and happier life. Long live free Nicaragua! Long live the FSLN! [end recording]

Jakes Awarded, Gives Speech

PA0701222289 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0302 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Speech by Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, CPCZ, at a ceremony to accept the Augusto Cesar Sandino Order from the government, held at the Olof Palme Convention Center in Managua—live in Czech with simultaneous translation into Spanish]

[Text] Dear comrade president, dear comrades: From the bottom of my heart I thank the FSLN National Directorate for the invitation [words indistinct].

I sincerely thank the FSLN and the Nicaraguan Government, headed by Comrade Ortega, for conferring the Augusto Cesar Sandino Order upon me. I deeply value this high honor that bears the name of [words indistinct] of the Nicaraguan people and a staunch fighter for national liberation and social progress.

This year marks the 56th anniversary of Sandino's treacherous assassination.

The FSLN, the Nicaraguan people, and the revolutionary organizations are following the noble ideals and concepts Sandino lived for: to develop the country and establish just relations among the states.

I accept this decoration in recognition of the work done by the CPCZ and the Czechoslovak people to build socialism and their participation in the common battle to reduce the threat of war and maintain peace.

Our delegation thanks you for this opportunity to meet with you, the representatives of the Nicaraguan people and the inhabitants of the heroic city [words indistinct] in the memory of the friends of the Nicaraguan revolution and the struggle for a more just world.

We know that your revolutionary forces must fight together to succeed [words indistinct], despite the great difficulties you are facing, the day will come when the courageous people of Nicaragua will be able to devote themselves to building and furthering the revolutionary achievements in peace.

In the struggle for [words indistinct] against the armed counterrevolution and U.S.imperialism's blackmail, you can count on the CSSR's support and solidarity.

I take this opportunity to convey greetings from Czechoslovak workers and thank you, on their behalf, for your statements regarding our country.

We highly respect the Nicaraguan Government's policy to strengthen the Sandinist revolution's democratic gains, its efforts to guarantee freedom, and its respect for the human and civil rights of those who have chosen their own independent path of development.

We appreciate Nicaragua's constructive and principled foreign policy [words indistinct] closely working with the Contadoras and complying with the agreements signed in Guatemala. Nicaragua is also engaged in constructive negotiations with local opposition groups and it is always willing to (?yield) in favor of a peaceful solution to the Central American situation and we feel, in this case, that talks must be held with the United States.

Czechoslovakia will continue to support all efforts and initiatives to resolve the Central American situation, using all international forums to back Nicaragua's political solution.

We value highly our relations [words indistinct] of the Sandinist government toward [word indistinct] development in the region, which (?is also promoted) by Comrade Ortega.

Czechoslovakia is a small country in Central Europe. Its inhabitants have a strong sense of justice. The wheels of our revolution were never pushed by aristocracy or the bourgeoisie. They were pushed by the humble people, the country's best children.

Our history is not a gift from destiny. It is a history of the people's creative work. Our history is one of a fatherland with periods of freedom and development but also of sadness and oppression.

However, our people have come out stronger and firmer as a result of all of their historical trials.

They were ready to lead their country to a new [word indistinct] we also have the progressive legacy of our history. We are the result of the ability and dedication of previous generations that strived for the multilateral development of the socialist (?society).

Last year we commemorated the 70th anniversary of the founding of the independent republic and the 40th anniversary of the socialist revolution. These two historical events represent the people's determination to express their will independently and to be the builders of their own future.

I cite these facts to stress that we truly understand each nation's inalienable right to pursue its own idea of what happiness is.

Now that our multilateral relations are more developed and stronger, we are seeking and finding useful forms of cooperation for both nations.

[Words indistinct] negotiations that we have carried out with Comrade Ortega and other top leaders of the FSLN and the Nicaraguan state.

As Comrade Ortega has told you in detail, we reached the unequivocal conclusion that Czechoslovak-Nicaraguan multilateral cooperation needs improvement, more dynamism, and better efficiency.

[Words indistinct] contribution to the solution of the economic problem. However, good, permanent results can only be achieved through daily work (?with this). You, who started on this revolutionary path 10 years ago, know this. We, who have 40 years of experience in our country's social development, also know it. For the further development of socialism, we have begun to take two paths: the implementation of economic reforms in our society and the democratization of all areas of our social life.

We have been eliminating problems [words indistinct] seeking new starting points to perfect socialism [words indistinct], applying the most modern methods to run the economy and society.

The purpose of these efforts is to continue increasing the people's standard of living. This can only be done through common work again [words indistinct] the workers' creativeness. The majority of our citizens agree with and support these reforms and are willing to implement them.

The example of the CPSU, which was the first to implement revolutionary changes in society, is a great inspiration to us. We are following a similar road, taking its peculiarities fully into account.

Regarding our state and party's foreign policy, we support any effort for the sake of peace and anything that strengthens international security and develops cooperation and understanding among states and peoples.

[Words indistinct] we fully support the Soviet initiatives proposed by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev at the United Nations.

Together with other member states of our defensive alliance, we are trying actively to assist the disarmament process because of its favorable effects on other key problems in the world.

We feel that the world must be a safer place. We believe that we must stop the arms race [words indistinct] disarmament. We advocate a new world economic order.

We condemn the continuation of the undeclared war against Nicaragua and any intervention in the domestic affairs of Latin American countries, as well as threats to their sovereignty.

Our country is in Central Europe [words indistinct], the scene of the arms race and the Cold War when, 40 years ago, [words indistinct] also entered our country [words indistinct] recruited by imperialism, killing party officials and leaders chosen by the people, in addition to the citizens. However, it is known that this did not stop our effort to build socialism, which has become a reality.

We know that Nicaragua has also paid for its independence with much blood. Over the past 10 years, Nicaragua has paid the high cost of more lives in order to maintain its independence.

For this reason, we value each step that your fatherland takes to [words indistinct] we are very much aware that [words indistinct] complex reality of Central America, the U.S. pressure to maintain its own [words indistinct] thus, we value your firm efforts and existing [words

indistinct] and like Comrade Humberto Ortega [name as heard] said, our foreign policy is the policy of a people who have experienced a bloody war. It is the policy of disarmament and peace.

Dear Comrade Ortega and dear Nicaraguans, before ending, allow me to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the honor conferred upon me. I assure you that we will do everything possible to ensure that the relationship of friendly cooperation between the CPCZ and the FSLN, our countries and our peoples, will develop, prosper, and become stronger.

I wish the FSLN and the Nicaraguan Government and people much success in their revolutionary struggle to build a fair society. I assure you that our country, [name indistinct] homeland, is in full solidarity with your struggle and aspirations.

Long live free Nicaragua! Long live the Czechoslovak and Nicaraguan people! Long live peace!

Visits Energy Plant, Sugar Mill

PA0801193989 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Jan 89

[Text] Eugen Bregin, Czechoslovak trade adviser, says his country has given Nicaragua a total of $150 million since the triumph of the Sandinist revolution. He added that a sixth meeting of the Nicaragua-CSSR Joint Commission may be held in March to discuss increased cooperation between the two nations. Meanwhile, Milos Jakes, secretary general of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, will tour the Momotombo geothermal plant today, the most important energy project in Nicaragua. The Czech leader will be accompanied by President Daniel Ortega, cabinet officials, and Czech and Nicaraguan reporters.

Yesterday, accompanied by President Ortega, Jakes visited the Victoria de Julio sugar mill and Las Canoas Dam. It must be emphasized that most of Czechoslovakia's aid to Nicaragua has been spent on the textile industry.

Returns to CSSR 7 Jan

PA0901224089 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Jan 89

[Text] Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, returned to his country on 7 January satisfied with the results of his visit to Nicaragua. Jakes was seen off by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega.

Jakes said that he is leaving with a positive impression of the FSLN's principles of political pluralism, mixed economy, and nonalignment. Jakes said he advocates more international support for Nicaragua and an end to U.S. aggression so that the Nicaraguan Government can carry out its development programs.

The Czech communist leader announced that a mixed Nicaraguan-Czechoslovak commission will meet soon, and his country will increase its cooperation and solidarity toward the Nicaraguan people.

Milos Jakes said he supports the Sandinist Government's peace efforts and the presidential summit.

Ortega's Statement on Summit Postponement

PA1101025089 Paris AFP in Spanish 0048 GMT 11 Jan 89

[Text] Managua, 10 Jan (AFP)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega today announced that the summit of Central American Presidents initially scheduled for 15-16 January has been postponed due to the "inflexible position" of Costa Rican President Oscar Arias.

In a statement to journalists, Ortega added that the summit will now take place during the 2d half of February, for which Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte will make the necessary arrangements.

Ortega said that in view of the summit's postponement, the preparatory technical meeting that was to begin today in Managua was also postponed.

The meeting of foreign ministers and technical advisers will be scheduled once the date for the presidential summit is set, he added.

"I believe Arias' position is contrary to the spirit of the Esquipulas II peace plan which he presented and to the stance he has maintained," Ortega said.

The Sandinist leader regretted that Arias "is subordinating Central American interests and decisions to a strategy that could very well be designed at the White House."

Last Friday, Arias suggested postponing the presidential summit until after U.S. President-elect George Bush takes office and defines his Central American policy.

Ortega reacted by accusing Arias of "vetoing" and "burying" the Esquipulas II process and insisted that the summit should take place on 15-16 January in San Salvador as scheduled.

Ortega stressed that what is at stake now is "whether the Central American presidents will determine our own policies, or if we will let the United States impose its policies on the area."

In stating that the regional peace process "is in great danger," Ortega recalled that there will be elections in El Salvador in March.

"If the Nationalist Republican Alliance (the ultrarightist ARENA) wins the elections, the regional political situation will change and we would have to wait for that party to decide whether it agrees with the Esquipulas II process or not," Ortega noted.

Should ARENA win the elections and decide not to endorse the peace plan, "all the efforts carried out by the Central American peoples and the concern to promote the peace plan will go down the drain," Ortega stressed.

Ortega also said "we should not entertain great hopes" about the meetings that will take place in Caracas during the inauguration of Venezuelan President-elect Carlos Andres Perez.

Foreign Minister's Reaction

PA1101003789 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 8 Jan 89 pp 1, 5

[Text] Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto said yesterday that he regretted Dr Oscar Arias' sudden request to postpone the presidential summit scheduled for 15-16 January in San Salvador, and said the critical times have not changed since the five foreign ministers agreed in Mexico on the date for the meeting, taking into account President Napolen Duarte's health and treatment plans.

In December, following intense negotiations and in reply to a request by the Costa Rican president to reactivate as soon as possible the peace plan, the five Central American foreign ministers agreed on the dates for the meetings of the technical commission, the foreign ministers, and the presidential summit.

According to what the foreign ministers planned and decided in Mexico, there would be a precise agenda at the presidential summit on verification of security agreements—at the request of the UN secretary general—and verification of the Esquipulas II political agreements.

Foreign Minister D'Escoto said "when we met in Mexico, we knew the dates when George Bush and Carlos Andres Perez would be sworn in, and we never conditioned the meeting dates on those events."

D'Escoto felt it "was very difficult" to reschedule the meeting at short notice, especially because of President Duarte's treatment and the upcoming elections in El Salvador.

The Salvadoran president sent a message yesterday to Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo, Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo, and Nicaraguan President Commander Daniel Ortega. The message said that despite the fact that the 15-16 January dates were agreed upon by the five area foreign ministers, he wanted to know as soon as possible each presidents' opinion on these dates.

Wire services quote Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras as saying he is "surprised" over President Arias' decision and adds that his government is ready to attend the meeting.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Guatemalan Government said President Cerezo disagreed with Arias' proposal and said he would do his best to ensure the meeting takes place on the scheduled date.

Last night, the Nicaraguan Government was in touch with its Central American counterparts in the hope that the peace process would not be interrupted, so as to avoid further bloodshed.

Newspaper on New U.S. Plans To Aid Opposition

PA1101042889 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 9 Jan 89 pp 1, 8

[Text] New York and Managua—For the past few weeks, various U.S. organizations with ties to the Democratic and Republican Parties seem determined to adjust not only the tactics used in providing "support" to Nicaragua but also the means by which this "support" reaches the opposition, even though they may violate Nicaraguan laws in the process.

Janine Parfit, director of the Republican Institute for International Affairs with headquarters in the United States, recently admitted that—since the contras are beaten—the struggle will now be waged on the internal political front. This implies increasing support to all the opposition groups in the country.

Financing

The institute publicly acknowledges that its budget for Nicaraguan projects is approximately $100,000, channeled through the "Dolores Estrada Foundation" and also through the "Conservative Institute," which is tied to the Conservative Party of Nicaragua.

Even though a sizable portion of this amount was sent to Nicaragua before the government began enforcing a law in October which banned U.S. funds approved by Congress for the contras or destabilizing actions, Parfit admitted that they are searching for new channels that can be used in the future.

Her institute is exploring the possibility of channeling its aid through conservative foundations in the FRG and Austria to evade the Nicaraguan ban.

The NED Again

The Republican Institute is a beneficiary of the"National Endowment for Democracy" (NED), which is financed by the U.S. Congress and is involved, according to much-publicized research, in the support given to the so-called "Melton Plan."

According to the Nicaraguan authorities, the plan involved the opposition groups' mobilization on 10 July in Nandaime, which brought about the immediate expulsion of the U.S. ambassador to Nicaragua. The plan sought to create and encourage the opposition groups' demonstrations and provocations with the intention of subverting and destabilizing Nicaragua internally.

According to former journalist Martin Andersen, director of the Institute for Latin American Affairs—another NED beneficiary—the organization will meet late in January to determine how much will be donated for its various projects and to decide what is to be done about the Nicaraguan law that bans donations from organizations that are financed by the U.S. Congress.

New Channels

Even though Andersen warned that most of his institute's efforts do not involve the transfer of funds—only advisory aid, seminars, and political training—he did not rule out the search for "new" channels to send those funds to Nicaragua.

Third countries' "democratic" organizations might be effectively used as channels to send the aid to Nicaragua, thus evading—once more—Nicaraguan laws.

Even though, according to Andersen, the aid does not have the same effect of a destabilizing intervention in internal Nicaraguan affairs, it nevertheless "advocates democracy and offers an alternative."

New Tactics

Sources close to the Democratic Party's foreign policy institute—which is also a NED beneficiary, which channels aid, and which maintains relations with other parties—stated that they have collaborated with other parties on the tactics that must be implemented to guarantee their presence in Nicaragua.

The organization supports a series of Nicaraguan organizations, and its agenda includes sending a mission to Nicaragua to study the opportunities that future municipal elections offer the opposition. According to national leaders, the elections will be held next year.

Joint Strategy

The organization will try to evaluate possible mechanisms through which the Democratic Party can help related Nicaraguan parties in their "struggle for democracy." The mission will try to gauge the opposition and evaluate what joint strategies may be carried out concerning the municipal elections.

The contras' military defeat and the need to change political guidelines concerning Nicaragua—shortly before Reagan relinquishes power to Bush—seems to be the main issue among anti-Sandinist organizations in the United States. The organizations are quickly establishing new "code words," rally cries, and ways to help the opposition. They are also defining "unique" channels to sidestep the Nicaraguan legal system and send financial aid to Managua.

Tirado, Cuban Ambassador at Anniversary Ceremony

PA0901131389 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 5 Jan 89 pp 1, 5

[Text] Victor Tirado, commander of the revolution and FSLN National Directorate member, said at the homage paid to the 30th anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban revolution yesterday that the friendship between the Cuban and Nicaraguan Governments and people "is firm and indestructible" because "it is the brotherhood of two revolutions that are determined to forge their own destiny and march together toward the construction of a new world."

At the ceremony held last night at Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center, Commander Tirado acknowledged and expressed appreciation for the moral, political, diplomatic, economic, and military support given by the Cuban Government and people to the Nicaraguan revolution, before and after its triumph.

The FSLN National Directorate member noted that "Cuba is an internationalist country that is extraordinarily solidaristic, which is something we will never forget." He recalled the thousands of Cuban teachers, doctors, and professionals who have come to our country to help it get on its feet and recover from the harm caused by Yankee aggression and natural disasters.

In Commander Tirado's political analysis, he acknowledged the fact that Marxism-Leninism and all the revolutionary doctrines are going through a lot of trials since "perestroyka" appeared and that to confront these trials "we have to be able to prove with facts that these doctrines are valid, vital, and productive."

The Sandinist leader asserted that the detente policy between the USSR and the United States "is not an obstacle to the development of the Third World's revolutionary movement," but it "opens new perspectives and possibilities for change."

Tirado stated that the U.S. Government had tried to isolate the Cuban revolution from the rest of the American Continent but that today "the Latin American governments have ended up accepting political pluralism in the region, despite the Reagan administration's obstinate and irrational opposition."

At the homage paid to the triumph of the Cuban revolution, Tirado said that since the triumph, "the world has changed considerably." Thus, the forms of struggle should be renewed without losing sight of the central goal—"to establish a social regime that favors the majorities."

The Sandinist commander stated that in the present situation of the world revolutionary movement, "the guerrilla era in Latin America has not ended," but he clearly established that "it is not the only form of struggle"—a phase of parliamentary or electoral struggles has begun in the continent's countries.

"The moment has come to adjust our strategies and tactics to the new realities," said Tirado. He then added, "We have to create our own strategy and be able to set our own course to be less dependent on the fluctuations of the big power centers."

In his speech, Cuban Ambassador to Nicaragua Norberto Hernandez pointed out that after 30 years of social revolution, the Caribbean country is one of the most advanced in Latin America in educational, social, labor, and other fields.

Hernandez noted that in Cuba, the infant mortality rate is only 13 per each 1,000 born—one of the lowest rates in Latin America—and he added that one out of three Cubans is presently enrolled in one of the educational alternatives.

The Cuban ambassador stated that the "process of rectifying errors" being implemented in his country "is conclusive evidence of the degree of maturity attained by the revolution," because it "has demonstrated that socialism is possible without capitalist influence."

At the ceremony, attended by hundreds of Cubans who fullfil internationalist tasks in our country, the ambassador reaffirmed Cuba's will to continue to support Nicaragua in all fields and said the work done by thousands of Cuban doctors, teachers, and constructors was "a big honor."

In ending, he pointed out that the Cuban Government supported the peace initiatives presented by Mikhail Gorbachev at the UN General Assembly, especially regarding the moratorium of the Third World's foreign debt.

Ministry Reports More Honduran Army Attacks

PA1001211789 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1720 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Managua, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE)—For the 2d consecutive day, Honduran Army troops today "harassed" a Sandinist military post on the Nicaraguan-Honduran border without inflicting any casualties, the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry reported today.

Honduran troops attacked the military post at La Ceiba, 8 km west of Somotillo along the border with Honduras, firing rifles and launching grenades, the same source added without providing further details.

Honduran Army troops attacked an observation post in northwestern Nicaragua twice yesterday without inflicting any casualties, the same military source reported.

This is the second attack launched from Honduras against a Nicaraguan military post that the Defense Ministry has reported since the beginning of this year.

In 1988, Honduran troops constantly "harassed" Sandinist Army border posts.

PSC Leader on Contras, 15 January Rally

PA1101035689 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 0400 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Interview with Erick Ramirez Benavente, president of the Social Christian Party, PSC, by unidentified reporters; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Is it true that you met with the contras?

[Ramirez] Yes it is. We [not further specified] traveled to Miami and San Jose and met with Arturo Sanchez, Roberto Ferrey, Adolfo Calero, and Enrique Bermudez, all members of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] Directorate. We talked about the efforts being made to resume the political talks with the Sandinists. These talks began last year and are aimed at finding a solution to the serious crisis affecting Nicaragua. We believe that the crisis must be solved through peaceful negotiation and without violence. We told them how we felt. We told them that the development of a process of negotiation with the FSLN is hindered when two or three different proposals are presented. This only gives the Sandinist government the opportunity to use the proposal that best suits their own purpose. When this happens, the real idea of an overall political negotiation is lost.

We told them that the opposition parties in Nicaragua have already presented several proposals which include certain requirements that must be met so that we may say that there is a process of democratization and freedom under way in Nicaragua. Under the current situation, this is not possible.

We presented these same proposals to the RN Directorate and to Jose Davila, (Roberto Rossi), and Octaviano Cesar, leaders of the Democratic Center Coalition with whom we met in San Jose, Costa Rica. We also told them that we felt that we should get together and find a common, overall, democratic, and (?anti-Sandinist) stance that will keep us from experiencing a division so frequently seen among the opposition here as well as abroad.

This has been a very useful trip. We tried to express our feelings regarding the political future of our country based on a political, civic, peaceful, and negotiated solution to the serious problem affecting Nicaragua.

[Reporter] Can you tell us [words indistinct] about the rally scheduled by the opposition for 15 January?

[Ramirez] We are working with other democratic organizations to participate in this rally, which we consider to be of great importance. It will not only be an event to honor

Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, one of the most staunch supporters of democracy in Nicaragua, but also one to show unity. The political opposition within Nicaragua must carry out joint activities that will allow it to project a solid and consolidated democratic alternative in view of a system that lacks all liberties, as is the case with the Sandinist regime. We feel that the rally scheduled for 15 January is aimed at seeking a permanent unity among all the political and social sectors of the country. The PSC is strongly supporting this rally. We are going to participate and we hope that the Nicaraguan people will take to the streets, and with their peaceful and civic presence, show the Sandinists that the Nicaraguan people do not agree with the current government, the crisis, and the lack of a good economic policy to solve the problems of the people. We hope that this rally will show that the Nicaraguan people truly want a real process of democratic change.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] meeting in El Salvador [words indistinct] Esquipulas II?

[Ramirez] I feel that the process of pacification and stabilization in Central America has been greatly affected by the fact that the Esquipulas II agreements have not been implemented. The commitments made were precise and clear. They called for the development of a process of democratization in all the Central American countries. One of the key points to be observed would be total respect for all liberties, respect for human rights, opening of a private television channel, total access to the media, respect for all political rights, freedom of mobilization and propaganda for all opposition parties, an end to repression, a cease-fire, and total amnesty. This has not been the case in Nicaragua, however.

In 1988, instead of respecting all rights, the Sandinist government only increased its repressive process by curbing all liberties. The Esquipulas II process was seriously hindered when the Sandinist government refused to abide by the commitments made in Guatemala. Therefore, this summit, which has already been postponed five times, does not raise great expectations or hope if there is no proof of good will on the part of those regimes, like the Nicaraguan regime, that are still bent on maintaining a hegemonic political attitude. I feel that if President Ortega and the Sandinist government had abided by the Esquipulas II agreements, there would have been no need to hold a summit because all agreements would have been implemented. However, in light of Nicaragua's refusal to abide by the agreement, in light of Nicaragua's refusal to respect all rights, and in light of the fact that there is no democracy in Nicaragua, another summit is necessary. The Sandinist regime is greatly to blame for the fact that the Esquipulas agreements have not been implemented, and it is also to blame for any future political instability in Central America.

Panama

Solis Palma Message for 9 Jan Anniversary

PA1001135589 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 9 Jan 89 p A-1

[Message issued by Minister in Charge of the Presidency Manuel Solis Palma in Panama City on 9 January]

[Text] We are commemorating today a salient date in the forging of Panama's nationality, when our people united with vigor and courage to confront the U.S. troops who injured the dignity of our Republic by attacking its youth for trying to exercise the right to raise our country's flag in the Canal Zone.

The profound significance of the deed of 9 January 1964 was that it meant a full identification of our nation with the goals of national liberation and absolute sovereignty that the Panamanian people have upheld throughout their history. The example of nationalist reassertion that was set by that era's generation should serve as a guide to all of us Panamanians today to remain firmly and resolutely against the aggression that the United States is currently perpetrating against our Republic in open violation of the most fundamental rules of international law.

Twenty-five years ago, the people's cause took the shape of a liberation process that could only be viewed as the removal of every vestige of colonialism. Out of the unredeemed blood of our martyrs there arose, as irrefutable truth, the historical need to obtain full recognition for our rights as a people and nation. The best tribute we can render to that heroic awakening is an intimate reassertion, at the very bottom of our heart as Panamanians, of our determination to continue playing our individual roles, without letting up or without dismay, in the struggle we have been destined to play until the year 2000.

Therefore, let us renew our commitment to defend Panama until it achieves its absolute and definitive independence so at the turn of the century, it will celebrate the beginning of a new era in its history, being the full master of its resources and destiny.

9 January 1989
Manuel Solis Palma
Minister in charge of the Presidency

Solis Palma Speech in San Miguelito District

PA1101011389 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0420 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Speech by President Manuel Solis Palma at a ceremony granting land titles to residents of a neighborhood in San Miguelito District, Panama City, on 9 January—recorded]

[Text] When I was listening to student Carmen Medina, in truth, I was reflecting on the importance [2-second break in reception], because we have said that our schools, particularly our public schools, are lacking in

many things. Nevertheless, we have talent. This student has talent. She is a student of humble origins, but one who represents the hopes of our fatherland. I admire her memory. I admire her feelings. I admire what she represents, particularly because she is a humble young woman from a poor neighborhood in our community.

I believe that to know what poverty means, a person has to have experienced poverty. It is very difficult for someone who has not suffered, someone who has always lived surrounded by wealth, to feel the needs of his people. It is also very difficult for someone who has been poor to forget the poverty he has lived through, unless he is a heartless person. I lived in misery. I lived in poverty. I was hungry, and I cannot forget, for the sake of my people, the sad times I endured. What I want to do is to raise the morale of these people.

We have to do something on your behalf. That is why, when I arrived here and was told of the flooding problem faced by the 9 January neighborhood, we began to analyze all of its problems. I promised the Mayor and the residents of the 9 January neighborhood that we would solve your problems, and we solved those problems in a relatively short period of time.

We also promised the nine flood victims that we would provide housing for them. We knew that it would not be easy, because we have to face the crisis, which at times, I think, we use as an excuse for doing nothing. However, I am convinced that there is always a way to find solutions to the enormous problems suffered by the Panamanian community.

It is true that we require resources, money. Money, however, cannot do everything. There are things that money cannot buy, things that can be secured only by being imaginative, creative, cooperative. This is the road we have to follow. The nine houses were built because we decided that all the institutions had to contribute. We did so and there are the nine houses. They are not ready yet, but I hope that they will be finished in less than 2 weeks so that what I am saying here to the Panamanian people does not become a lie. [applause]

We did not know what to do to purchase the land. [sentence as heard] I remember that Franklin Delano Roosevelt was president of the United States in 1930, 1931, and 1932 [as heard], the years when the world faced its worst crisis, one of the most profound crises endured by the world—not including Panama because this current crisis is the worst ever in our country. Somebody once asked him: How do you plan to solve the fiscal deficit problem? Roosevelt replied: With more deficits.

If somebody were to ask me how I plan to resolve some of the problems the country is facing, I would tell him: With more debts. If we have to acquire more debts to resolve the problems of the poor, let us do so. There should be no suffering if there is some way of avoiding it. This is why I have said: Let us issue bonds, because while it is true that it represents a future debt, right now it represents a solution. [applause]

I am not afraid of a future with debts, because the future belongs to Panama.

We are going through difficult but also glorious times. They are glorious because we are looking for solutions using our own resources. We are establishing relations with other countries of the world and achieving national independence.

Today is a grand day, a big day to remember. I also endured the experience of 9, 10, 11, and 12 January 1964. As education minister then, I was very close to the Panamanian student and youth vanguard who defended the country's dignity with their lives.

I was saddened in recent years when the students of Panama were not leading the nationalist struggle. Today, however, when I saw them marching, when I saw them raise their heads to commemorate a glorious day, I realized that we are still on the track, that our young people love their fatherland, that they are prepared to struggle for it, and that they are the strongest bulwark we will have in the year 2000 and in the future of Panama. [applause]

Today we saw a nation commemorate a glorious effort. This is our response to the United States. Following 1 year and 9 months of aggression, we are not worn out. On the contrary, today we have demonstrated the strength of the Panamanian people, a people who want to be free, sovereign, and independent, and this makes us feel great.

Gentlemen, we are preparing for the future, and there are many things to be done. Here is a poster that reads: We want residential telephones and an outlet to Tumba Muerto Road. We have to commit ourselves. Here is the director of the National Telecommunications Institute, Luis Blanco. Humble people like you want telephones. If there are no resources, then let him increase the rates of those who have money, but give telephones to the poor people of this country. [applause]

I have been telling Luis Blanco that there are people who abuse the telephone and pay only $10.00. I have a secretary who I can never find because her telephone line is always busy, but she pays only $10.00 for the service. Let him increase these people's telephone bills to $20.00, and they can either pay or have the line cut. Charge customers on a usage basis. Do something and let the extra revenue be used for the humble people who need it, not so that their kids can make love declarations over the telephone, but to enable the humble people to speak with their friends, their neighbors, and to use in case of emergencies, because telephones are not a luxury. They are a necessity.

Another poster reads: We want paved streets. I agree. The public works minister is here. I do not know whether or not he has the equipment to repair the streets, but I do know that he must have many shovels with which to repair the streets. [applause]

In the past, when we did not have equipment, workers used wheelbarrows, picks, and shovels and the streets got repaired. If the people have these tools, let them be used and let the streets be repaired. I believe this can be done. It is a matter of being imaginative and of looking for solutions.

I believe that the government team has the will. We are joining in a common effort to do as much as we can so that the humble people of our communities have the basic means of survival.

Recently we distributed food bags. Food bag distributions are not acts of charity but temporary solutions for the most needy people. We are going to continue distributing such bags at least once a month so that the most needy people will have something to eat for a few days. And, I repeat, this is no charity. This is a temporary solution. A permanent solution means finding jobs for these people so that they can earn a living. We have to make every effort to create jobs, to find a way for all humble Panamanians to resolve their problems.

We have financial and budget problems. There have been talks about big salary cuts, about mass dismissals. I know that we have to make adjustments, but I want to tell the entire country that as chief of the executive branch, I will not agree to mass dismissals or salary cuts as long as every other measure has not been tried and as long as there are high-level sinecures, as long as big salaries are not reduced.

The national crisis cannot be a crisis for public employees only. Let us share it. There are people who do not pay their taxes, who engage in contraband, who receive huge benefits, and who are not being taxed on that. Let us distribute the crisis. Let us not dump it on the public employees because this is not fair or right, and we are not going to allow that to happen. [applause]

If after every other measure has been tried we still have to make salary cuts, let us cut salaries at the highest levels, not those of people who earn 300 or 400 balboas, because this is hardly enough to cover basic needs. Let us make the cuts among those who have two cars. Let those who enjoy sightseeing travel less. Let those who like to make trips abroad think about cutting down on that.

Gentlemen, let us distribute the crisis, which was not created by the people but by gentlemen who thought that they would be able to overthrow the government to put an end to the people's achievements and to surrender the nation to U.S. interests, which are similar to those of these gentlemen about whom I speak. This cannot be allowed. This is what is at stake and this is why we have to be united. Please continue criticizing us for what we do not do right, but please understand that the unity of the people is necessary to go on, to find solutions to your problems. We have not resolved many problems, but we are committed to finding solutions. The only way we can do it is if you exert pressure.

Thank you for your posters. They do not offend me. I believe we have to agree to demands. When we do not do something right, we have to suffer the consequences, and we must endure the criticism of the people. If we belong to the people and if we believe in them, we have to agree to their just demands. I hereby express to the humble people of San Miguelito and Panama my commitment not to forget that I was born poor. I am not rich but I am not poor, as I was before. However, I hope to still be able to understand your problem, which is partly my problem because all of you are part of our lives and because we are committed to waging an unending struggle. Thank you. [applause]

Solis Palma Meets With Panamanian Ambassadors

PA0801152489 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 6 Jan 89 pp A-1, B-7

[Text] Manuel Solis Palma, Panamanian minister in charge of the Presidency, invited several Panamanian ambassadors to the presidential palace, for the first time in more than 10 years, to consider the effects of the crisis Panama has been suffering during the past 19 months. Solis Palma and the diplomats agreed that Panama will continue to maintain commercial and diplomatic relations with all the countries it desires and that, far from limiting these relations, the country will strengthen them, whether or not its relations with the United States improve in the future.

Acting Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera Filos presented an overall view of the country's situation and expressed the government's desire to keep the ambassadors posted on local events. He also pointed out the need to reach an agreement so the diplomats can explain the Panamanian situation in the countries where each of them has been assigned. In this way, they will be able to counteract the wave of disinformation the U.S. Government has been spreading throughout the world through international news agencies and its own mass media.

All the Panamanian ambassadors to countries in America, Europe, Asia, and the Caribbean agreed that although this disinformation wave has hurt Panama very much, it decreases daily, not by the actions of the government that had created it but by the actions of the Panamanian diplomats who have been reporting on Panama at universities, lectures, and through bulletins and the media in those countries.

They also agreed it is necessary to strengthen the existing commercial and diplomatic ties and establish relations with other countries as far as possible, because many countries have shown interest in importing Panamanian products. This opportunity must not be wasted.

It was pointed out during this interesting meeting that Panama hurt itself greatly by not taking full advantage of the great asset that General Omar Torrijos discovered. He brought Panama closer to other peoples of the world, who offered their help and friendship so Panamanian trade would not be exclusively limited to the United States. This is even more necessary now that the U.S. Government has turned its back on Panama.

These are the names of the Panamanian ambassadors who met with Solis Palma at the presidential palace. Bruno Garisto, ambassador to Italy; Berta Torrijos de Arosemena, ambassador to Spain; Victor Mata, ambassador to Guatemala; Alexis Cabrera, ambassador to Uruguay; Alberto Calvo, ambassador to Japan; Leonardo Kam, ambassador to the United Nations, and Jacinta de Bayard, ambassador to Jamaica.

U.S. Soldiers Accused of Brutality in Arrest

PA1101003689 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2328 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] U.S. soldiers James Harnett, Daniel J de Jesus, Daniel Quinto, and Jeffrey Testa used unnecessary force in detaining Panamanian Corporal Marino Omar Samaniego, who has a public relations position in the Panama Defense Forces. The arrest took place in violation of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, since hindrances were placed in the way of the turnover of the arrested corporal to Panamanian authorities.

Corporal Marino Samaniego reports on the incident, which took place early on the morning of 9 January.

[Begin Samaniego recording] I was going from the town of Veracruz toward the main highway. Halfway down the road, a U.S. patrol car was heading toward us. The patrol car suddenly put on its red light. There were four civilian cars ahead of us. At no time did the patrol car follow any of these four. We continued on normally, but were stopped at the gate as we were about to go out. When we stopped, the guards pulled me violently out of the car. There were three of them and they pulled me out violently. They pushed me toward the patrol car. I said to them in Spanish that they were not to treat me like that, because I have an artificial leg, but they continued to push me. They grabbed me, handcuffed me, and forced me into the patrol car. In the car, they put a seat belt on me, which was a hardship for me, because I had handcuffs plus the seat belt, and I have an artificial leg.

I was in that position for about ½ an hour. They waited a little bit longer, and then took me to the Liaison Office on the base, still handcuffed and wedged into the car. They then pushed me inside an office, where I was not given access to our military police, even though I asked if they would please put me in contact with the military police. I was there for almost 20 minutes before the Panamanian Military Police arrived and things could be cleared up—negotiated so to speak—and I was still handcuffed.

Since I was so uncomfortable and felt so bad, I began to cry and make noise. They said they would take the handcuffs off if I would stay calm and not make noise. I told them that this was okay, that I felt ill because of my leg and the handcuffs. Then they took them off. I then asked for permission to go to the bathroom, which they did not allow me to do. After a while, a person who spoke Spanish arrived and told them to take me to the bathroom. They took me to the bathroom under guard by three U.S. soldiers.

Later they brought me here. That period lasted some 30 minutes, after which I was turned over to our Military Police. [end recording]

It is appropriate to point out that the U.S. soldiers prevented newsmen present on the scene from doing their job. They used every means at their disposal to prevent them from obtaining information on the incident. The soldiers, in violation of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties and disregarding the Panamanian authorities' permission for newsmen to take television and still pictures, did not allow the members of the local press to record the events that were taking place, despite the fact that the area is one of joint responsibility.

FENASEP Rejects Dismissals, Salary Cuts

PA0701040289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1550 GMT 6 Jan 89

[Excerpt] Panama City, 6 Jan (ACAN-EFE)—Panamanian Government employees today warned the government that they will not tolerate mass dismissals, salary cuts, or economic measures to curtail their buying power under the pretext of dealing with the economic crisis that Panama has been experiencing for the past 18 months.

In a document delivered to ACAN-EFE today, the National Federation of Associations of Public Employees (FENASEP) criticizes the government for not complying with previously agreed upon commitments, which has "eroded" support for the government and "detracted from the credibility" of high-ranking government officials.

"We reject any measure that results in mass dismissals, salary cuts, or elimination of benefits," warned FENASEP, the country's largest federation and considered an ally of the government.

In its document, FENASEP reports alleged government plans to have a financial "adjustment" in 1989, whose most important political event will be the May presidential elections.

According to the federation, the government wants to impose "progressive salary cuts" in the public sector, not pay the "13th month" bonus this year, and "fire seditious government employees."

In addition to blaming the United States for Panama's socioeconomic crisis, FENASEP says the government has its "share of responsibility" for having "imposed" the IMF plan, which consists of paying off Panama's foreign debt first.

FENASEP accuses government leaders of "not making decisions to correct errors and not consistently confront (U.S.) aggression with popular measures."

FENASEP asked the government to fulfill its current commitments, and it demanded a "reorganization of public administration" with measures such as the elimination of government officials who collect salaries but do not work.

The document issued by FENASEP, which held several strikes in 1988, did not say what it would do if the government does not comply with FENASEP's demands. [passage omitted].

Panamenists, Liberals Name Presidential Candidate
PA0801191289 Panama City MEDIODIA in Spanish 6 Jan 89 p 11

[Unattributed article: "Cuchungo's Candidacy Will Rupture the ADO"]

[Text] A rift has been created within the Democratic Opposition Alliance (ADO) by the Panamenists and Authentic Liberal parties' decision to declare attorney Guillermo Endara their presidential candidate.

The strategy of the Arnulfistas [followers of late Panamenist leader Arnulfo Arias Madrid] and the Liberals led by Arnulfo Escalona has created a rift with the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] and the Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement [MOLIRENA], which feel Endara's backers failed to fulfill the opposition's agreement to jointly present their presidential candidates.

According to reliable sources, the PDC and MOLIRENA leaders were the last to be informed of the Panamenists and Authentic Liberals' decision to nominate Endara, when a television reporter asked several members of the two parties—who had gathered for a meeting at the offices of [MOLIRENA leader] Alfredo Ramirez—about the report.

It must be emphasized that Panamenist Vice President Francisco Artola and Authentic Liberal leader Julio Harris attended the meeting at Ramirez' offices, but did not inform their opposition allies of this turn of events.

To some members of the PDC, the Authentic Liberals' strategy consists of nominating Endara to create a confrontation over Ricardo Arias Calderon's candidacy, then proposing a conciliatory figure—who may well be Arnulfo Escalona Rios—as presidential candidate.

Private Sector Leader Discusses Elections
PA0501204789 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Jan 89

[News conference by Alberto Boyd, president of the National Council of Private Enterprise, with unidentified reporters in Panama City on 3 January—recorded]

[Text] [Boyd] By Thursday, 29 December, we already knew about the opposition parties' position on the May elections. The National Council of Private Enterprise, CONEP, held its last meeting of 1988 on that day. The meeting was attended by the presidents of all its member organizations. I briefed them about the various meetings we held separately with each of the political parties. I also told them about the parties' decision regarding the elections.

CONEP's position is as follows: First, CONEP recommended that none of its leaders run for public office. It also recommended that meetings be held, through the National Civic Crusade [CCN], with the other opposition groups to form an even broader and more united opposition. On Friday, 30 December, CONEP took this proposal to the CCN. The CCN accepted the proposal and also said that none of its main leaders will run for office, because the CCN should continue to be a moral force and to fulfill a watchdog function. It should remain above the electoral struggle so that if a somewhat difficult situation arises, the people's crusade will still be intact, acting under the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy.

[Reporter] Will you be supporting the opposition parties?

[Boyd] We recommended participation in the elections. We believe all citizens have the duty to participate and to state the type of government they want. There is much talk about the lack of proper election conditions. We hope the regime will think things over and create the conditions for honest elections in which the right to vote will be respected and in which the individuals elected through honest votes will be the ones who will govern the country. This does not mean the elections are the only solution. Perhaps during the political campaign, an agreement of national unity will be reached; this could bring about elections that would be much more acceptable to the Panamanian people.

INTEL Takes Over Communications Company
PA0701123189 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Jan 89

[Summary] Top National Institute of Telecommunications, INTEL, officials have reported that INTEL took over the services, equipment, operations, and personnel of the transnational corporation Tropical Radio and Telegraph, Inc, TRT, on 1 January 1989. This resulted from the implementation of Law 14 of 1987, which also establishes that Intercontinental Communications via Satellite, Inc., Intercomsa, will be taken over on 31 December 1989.

State-Owned Airline Loses $17 Million in 1988

PA0901050689 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Jan 89

[Text] Air Panama General Manager Cesar Rodriguez Maylin has said that the state-owned airline lost approximately $17 million in 1988.

Maylin pointed out that, in spite of difficulties imposed by U.S. economic aggression, the company experienced a recovery during the past few months.

Air Panama's general manager reiterated that the status of company workers remains unchanged. Meanwhile, investigations are under way to determine how the recovery was effected.

Argentina

Cuban Vice President To Meet With Alfonsin

PY1101012589 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Jan 89

[Text] President Raul Alfonsin will meet with Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez on 11 January at the Olivos Residence.

Rodriguez arrived this afternoon on a private visit.

At 1030 the Cuban vice president will make a protocol visit to the chief of state. Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and Cuban Ambassador to Argentina Santiago Diaz Paz will also participate in the meeting.

As we have already stated, Rodriguez arrived this afternoon in the country on a private visit.

Bolivia

Government Signs Mineral Agreement With PRC

PY1001125889 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Bolivia and the PRC have signed an agreement to establish quarterly the producers price for antimony concentrate and other minerals. The ceremony was held in a downtown hotel in La Paz.

The ceremony was attended by Mining Minister Jaime Villalobos, representatives of the PRC delegation headed by Dong Pengqiang, and businessmen of the Committee of Bolivian Antimony Producers headed by Mario Mercado.

Minister Villalobos emphasized the importance of the agreement signed by the PRC delegation and the Committee of Bolivian Antimony Producers. He said:

[Begin recording] I believe that this agreement will benefit the two countries because the market of this important mineral can be defended if the two countries implement a strict policy in accordance with this contract. [end recording]

Brazil

Bomb Scare Causes Evacuation of U.S. Consulate

PA1001223189 Paris AFP in Spanish 2159 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 10 Jan (AFP)—The police have reported that a bomb scare this morning prompted the evacuation of the U.S. Consulate in Rio de Janeiro, which is located in the downtown area.

According to Civil Police Commissioner Manuel de Jesus Moreira, an anonymous phone call was received from a Brazilian male announcing that the bomb had been placed in the garbage cans outside of the building and was about to explode.

At the time the phone call was received, the new Acting Consul Daniel A. Strasser was meeting with Federal Police Superintendent Fabio Calheiro.

Immediately after they were alerted, Brazilian police went to the scene and bomb experts inspected the area while the U.S. Marine security force conducted a search inside the consulate.

All embassy personnel were evacuated at 1040 as a precaution, and were warned that "it was not an exercise," according to a U.S. official who asked not to be identified.

Two hours later, the police authorized the return of the personnel to the building and normal consulate activities resumed.

Chile

Indian Diplomat on Soviet Property in Santiago

PY1001204089 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 6 Jan 89 p C-3

[Text] The Indian Embassy on 5 January reported that the USSR owns 16 real estate properties in Santiago. Indian Embassy counselor Hans Raj Mohey told EL MERCURIO that since September 1973 his embassy has been charged with the maintenance and management of the properties, most of which are located in Las Condes and Providencia.

He added that most of them have been rented to private individuals through a real estate company and that the rent is not sent to Moscow or to other organizations because it is used for maintenance purposes.

Concerning the house at 3846 Apoquindo Avenue, which housed the Soviet Embassy until September 1973, Mohay said that it still belongs to the USSR and that it is currently rented by auctioneer Juan Salinas Lyon.

Mohay said he was not aware of any Soviet request to use those properties once again.

Concerning the rapprochement that the Chilean president mentioned in an interview with the French newspaper LE MONDE, the Indian official said that this is a bilateral Soviet-Chilean matter and neither India nor its embassy should take any action in this regard. He added that he has no information on the subject.

He said that it is standard practice that countries keep their properties when diplomatic relations are broken or suspended. He mentioned the case of India and Pakistan, which maintained their respective properties for a long time even without any bilateral ties.

PDC Voices Solidarity With Communists

PY1001124489 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] has voiced its solidarity with the communist leaders who are to be tried.

The PDC communique states that, morally speaking, the behavior of the government is regrettable and from the political viewpoint it represents a sign of failure and by no means contributes to the much desired democratic coexistence.

It is already known that some communist leaders have been charged with repeatedly calling for terrorist actions and armed struggle.

In its communique voicing support and solidarity for the communist leaders, the PDC notes, however, that it strongly disagrees with the communist party's goals, strategies, and political behavior.

Police Clash With Demonstrators; 1 Killed

PY1001221389 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 2 Jan 89 p 11

[By Juan Carlos Poli]

[Text] Arica—Members of a political group who were painting slogans on walls in the area of Tucapel Roundabout opened fire on a police van. In the ensuing clash one demonstrator died and a policeman was seriously injured.

LA TERCERA DE LA HORA received an unofficial report yesterday afternoon. According to the report the incident occurred on the roundabout located at the corner of Diego Portales and Tucapel Streets at 2215 on 31 December.

Around 2000 that day the neighborhood suffered a blackout as a consequence of several terrorist attacks against the high-voltage power lines serving the area. A group of people, mostly young, took advantage of the blackout to start painting slogans on the walls, making reference to the 67th anniversary of the Communist Party.

Third Precinct policemen who were called in to check on the situation were met with gunfire from two or three individuals in the upper sector of the roundabout. Sergeant Juan Balbontin was hit twice and was rushed to a local hospital.

The police returned fire and hit one of the demonstrators who reportedly died on the spot. According to unconfirmed reports, the dead youth was identified as 28-year-old Salvador Cautivo Bautista.

Colombia

More on Talks With M-19; FARC Leader Comments

PA1101021789 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] The meeting between representatives of the Presidential Advisory Commission for Reconciliation, Rehabilitation, and Normalization and the top leaders of the M-19 rebel movement is continuing in the Tolima mountains. The first phase of the meeting, headed by presidential adviser Rafael Pardo Ruedas and M-19 Commander Carlos Pizarro Leongomez, is expected to end around 2200 tonight.

The meeting between presidential adviser Pardo Ruedas and M-19 Commander Pizarro began last night, but formal discussions did not begin until 0900 today. According to the government, the dialogue, which has not yet ended, is being held under very good conditions. Members of the FARC 23d Front, who operate in the area, are attending the meeting as observers.

The goal of the meeting is to produce a document that is to be signed by the M-19 and the government. The document will contain the steps to be followed in the peace process. Today's meeting is the first step toward that end.

[M-19 Commander Raul—identified by caption] "We believe this is a process of several steps, and one of these steps is taking place right now."

Up to now direct dialogue has only been held with the M-19, because the government considers it the only group that has shown evidence of a desire to attain peace. However, Noticias Uno contacted FARC Commander Jacobo Arenas, and he insisted that the Simon Bolivar Guerrilla Coordinating Board be included in the dialogue.

[Arenas] "The M-19 cannot reach an agreement. It cannot reach an agreement as if it were the coordinator. It cannot reach an agreement. What the M-19 group can do with the government is to look for roads, build bridges, look for new routes, and present new proposals. The goal of these talks should be to make it clear to the government that it must establish a high-level commission to meet with the coordinator to talk about whether the minimum conditions exist to continue making progress toward peace in Colombia."

The FARC commander thus insisted upon the need to create the high-level commission that was suggested by Senator Alvaro Leyva in his proposal. The government,

however, believes that dialogue with other rebel groups, including the FARC, still depends on the cessation of their armed guerrilla activities. Although a truce was decreed in December, the executive branch still does not believe these rebels have ceased their guerrilla activities.

Defense Minister, Army Chief on Arms Seizure

PA1101021689 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Jan 89

[Report by Claudia Arrocha—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] The largest weapons seizure in the country's history was weapons purchased in Portugal. They were acquired from that country's military industry through British intermediary David Erlinds for the FARC. The defense minister made this announcement which is based on information provided by the Jamaican Government and on 29 raids carried out in Colombia that led to the capture of a FARC [word indistinct] network in Bogota.

[Defense Minister Manuel Guerrero] "I invite the Colombian people to reflect on the seriousness of the peace proposal presented by the so-called FARC. Taking advantage of a unilateral truce—supposedly to allow the country to enjoy a calm Christmas and to greet the new year in peace—this group was planning to bring this dangerous shipment into the country."

Army Commander Nelson Mejia vigorously rejected FARC Commander Jacobo Arena's denial that the weapons had been acquired by that subversive group:

[Mejia] "It is obvious that it is not in their best interest to say they are involved and that they were importing those weapons to prolong the war. They should lie no more. That is part of the FARC's plan for this year. I believe the country can no longer be deceived."

The multimillion-dollar arms running began last January when the international network [the FARC] used false documents and some of its members posed as members of the Colombian Defense Ministry. They acquired the "Copacabana" in The Netherlands to tranport the cargo from Portugal to Jamaica. They also purchased a plane in the United States which arrived on 5 January in Jamaica to transport 10 tons of arms to Colombia.

On that day, in the presence of 12 Colombian military men, containers containing 1,000 G-3 rifles and clips, 10 60-mm mortars and 600 mortar grenades, and 250 sophisticated HK-21 machineguns, which even the Colombian Army does not have, were opened.

The defense minister added that as of now there is no firm evidence linking drug trafficking with the acquisition of these weapons.

Paraguay

Opposition Spokesman on U.S. Congressmen Meeting

PY1001213289 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 10 Jan 89 p 10

[Text] PLRA [Authentic Radical Liberal Party] President Domingo Laino has said that "the opposition and the visiting U.S. congressmen hold similar views. This fact should help the cause of human rights and the development of initiatives leading to a more democratic and pluralistic society in our country."

Laino said: "There was a fluid exchange of opinions between Paraguayan opposition members and the U.S. delegation that included two senators and two representatives. We did not sit down to discuss the ecology alone; we also discussed concrete Latin America and national political issues."

Domingo Laino, in his capacity as president of the National Accord, acted as spokesman for the opposition delegation that met with U.S. Ambassador Timothy Towel, and U.S. legislators Timothy Wirth, Richard Shelby, John Bryant, and Gerry Sikorski at the U.S. Embassy. The opposition delegation included Euclides Acevedo, Eduardo San Martin, and Jorge Dario Cristaldo.

Laino stressed that a rapprochement was possible thanks to the U.S. ambassador. "A rapprochement should help the cause of respect for human rights, which are so often ignored in our country. We discussed concrete ideas for advancing toward a democratic and pluralistic society," Laino said.

Asked if he mentioned an invitation from high-ranking officials to speak about national issues, Laino said: "I referred to it as an informal proposition, because that was all it was. I think that a dialogue at that level should be made within an institutional framework with the participation of representatives of most political parties."

Laino also mentioned other aspects of the meeting between the National Accord and the visiting U.S. officials. "Such an attitude from a friendly country is unprecedented, in that the meeting was attended by a member [as published] of the Senate Armed Services Committee. I think it was highly relevant. Besides, we heard expressions of encouragement and hope for our democratic position of pursuing a path back to a democratic institutional order and full respect for human rights. That is what all members of the National Accord pursue."

Peru

Terrorist Incidents Reported in Several Areas

14 Policemen Killed, 5 Wounded

PY1001025889 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] According to the Republican Guard Public Relations Office, terrorists killed 14 police agents and wounded 5 in three different incidents over the last weekend. The first incident occurred at Chalhuanca, Apurimac Department at 1230 on 7 January, the second at La Polvora the same day, and the third at El Boqueron del Padre Abad on 8 January.

The murdered agents are: Republican Guard Corporal Victor Bravo Raya, Civil Guards (Jorge Cataran Loaiza), (Carlos Augusto Bellido de la Brena), Juan Orihuela Silva and four others who have not yet been identified.

Civil Guard Lieutenant Inocente Gamarra Gimenez, Civil Guard Corporal Ricardo Altmirano, Republican Guard noncommissioned officer Beneval Paredes Flores, First Sargeant Arturo Urrutia, and Corporals Ramiro Cardenas Quintana, and (Victorino Cayatupa Atalaya) were also murdered.

4 Killed on Jungle Highway

PY1001200089 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Excerpt] The Police Prefecture this morning officially reported that terrorists have killed four members of the 69th UMOPAR [Mobile Units for Rural Areas] Station. They are Corporals (Wilde Leon Trejos), (Alex Tantalian Cespedes), and (Jorge Tarrillo Castillo), and Guard (Edilberto Izquierdo Cruz). The UMOPAR forces, which are operating in the red zone along the Marginal Jungle Highway, were ambushed by the terrorists. [passage omitted]

Republican Guards Killed

PY1001195689 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Jan 89

[Text] A column of terrorists last night killed four Republican Guards at the security detachment of Electrocentro, in Tingo Maria. A police source reported that the dead are Sergeant (Perdel Arma Corbi), Corporal (Manmani Felipe Zenon), and Guards (Diogenes Hidalgo Garro) and (Manuel Tello Flores). A patrol has been sent to pursue the column, a Republican Guard spokesman said.